

# THE GATEWAY

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AARON YEO

**HORSING AROUND** Participants in the first Agricultural Club parade since 1996 turned parts of the U of A campus into temporary horse trails yesterday afternoon. The procession was also made up of team wagons and tractors. It kicked off a week-long slate of events, including a chili cook-off, pancake breakfasts on Thursday and Friday, and farm sports, leading up to the Bar None Bash Saturday night.

## Agricultural festivities create stir on campus

SIMON YACKULIC  
News Staff

University of Alberta students with rural roots shined last week as Edmonton hosted the Canadian Finals Rodeo in conjunction with Farmfair International, combining to create a huge draw for all things country.

Amidst a sea of cowboy hats and leather jackets at Northlands Agricom and across the road at Rexall Place, university students got involved with the agricultural-themed festivities in a number of ways.

The U of A Multi-Species Judging Club helped out as show marshals for the Supreme Show of Champions (a cattle breeding competition) and Agriculture Club students were selling tickets to Bar None, an annual fundraiser on this week in support of Stars Air Ambulance.

Other students were enjoying the festivities and cheering on U of A

Education student Clay Creasy as he competed in the saddle bronc riding competition.

Saddle bronc riding is a rodeo competition where a rider attempts to successfully ride a bucking horse — or “bronco” — with a specialized saddle for eight seconds while the bronco tries to throw its rider.

To make riding these specially bred horses even tougher, the rider in saddle bronc competitions can hold onto a rein, but isn’t restricted from grabbing the horse with his free hand.

“Basically, you got a wild horse, and you put the saddle on him, and you got your bronc rein and you just try to spur him and hope not to get thrown off,” Creasy explained.

A fourth-year education student, Creasy is aiming to improve his placing in the sport of competitive rodeo.

PLEASE SEE **RODEO** ♦ PAGE 4

## U of A Students group’s DFU request halted

SCOTT FENWICK  
News Staff

A University of Alberta student group is raising concerns with proposed Students’ Union legislation which would restrict the terms of new Dedicated Fee Units paid by undergraduate students.

The legislation, known as Bill 8, passed first reading in Students’ Council in September on the principles that all new third-party DFUs collected by the SU have an unconditional online opt-out and be subject to a campus-wide referendum every five years.

Because of Bill 8’s approval in first reading, the campus chapter of World University Service Canada has since cancelled their plans to have their DFU increased via referendum next spring.

WUSC’s current DFU helps fund the Student Refugee Program, which brings legally recognized refugees from the developing world to the U of A to complete undergraduate degrees. The program has existed since 1988.

“We’ll have to go back to the

drawing board and look at other ways that we can fund the program,” said WUSC chair Kayla Atkey, adding that they planned to raise their DFU from \$0.44 to \$1.76 per term to bring more refugees to the University, and to mitigate rising on-campus housing costs.

**“We’ll have to go back to the drawing board and look at other ways that we can fund the program.”**

KAYLA ATKEY  
WUSC CHAIR

Atkey claimed that the provisions of Bill 8 render a referendum worthless because the unconditional online opt-outs put the SRP’s sustainability at risk, as the number of students choosing to opt out is unpredictable. Although increased fundraising can make up for the increased housing costs, it isn’t

capable of financing more refugees coming to the U of A.

However, SU Board of Governors Representative Steven Dollansky, who introduced Bill 8 to Students’ Council, stressed the importance of accountability when groups turn to students for funding with DFUs.

“Any organization that is funded by a DFU should not turn to students for funding unless they are confident that their cause will be legitimized by students,” he said. “A mandate that is valued by students will carry more weight than a set of keen executives.”

However, Roshanak Varnasseri, WUSC’s campus engagement coordinator, said that annual executive transition threatens WUSC’s ability to mount a referendum campaign every five years, explaining that WUSC is run comprehensively by roughly 15 full-time undergraduate students.

“When we’re having this referendum every five years, there will also still be students who are being supported by the program,” she said.

PLEASE SEE **WUSC** ♦ PAGE 2

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## Wall had to fall

Jeeshan Chowdhury travels to Germany for the 20th anniversary celebration of the Berlin Wall’s collapse

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## Battle-axe call

Prevail of Swollen Members tells you about his band’s bad luck, and the beautiful art that’s come of it

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The Gateway is created using Macintosh computers, HP Scanjet flatbed scanners, and a Nikon Super Cool Scan optical film scanner. Adobe InDesign is used for layout. Adobe Illustrator is used for vector images, while Adobe Photoshop is used for raster images. Adobe Acrobat is used to create PDF files which are burned directly to plates to be mounted on the printing press. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles, and weights of FENICE, Joanna, Kepler and Whitney. The Manitoban is the Gateway's sister paper, and we love her dearly, though "not in that way." The Gateway's games of choice are Dragon Age: Origins and Nick Frost's Pro-Crastinator.

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PETE YEE

**WILD RIDE** The youngest competitor at this year's Canadian Finals Rodeo, 20-year-old Luke Creasy from Brownsfield, AB, placed first in day two's bareback riding competition. This was the 36th year the annual event has taken place in Edmonton. It was announced that the CFR will run in Edmonton through 2016. Next year's event will take place November 10-14.

## STREETERS

Compiled and photographed by  
Jon Taves and Pete Yee

As you may be aware, the CFR wrapped up in Edmonton over the weekend.

## What place do you think rodeo culture has in modern Alberta?

**Mitch Ryan**  
Engineering IV**Paul Sandhu**  
Engineering IV**Alex Moreau**  
Science IV**Kaili Shore**  
Arts I

People still go and watch rodeo. They love it. They have a great time. Which is obvious in the last week or two with how much is going on with it. So it's obviously got a place in Edmonton; I assume it has a place everywhere else.

In terms of animal cruelty, they're riding animals, but other people ride animals all the time. It all depends. The people who pay to watch it don't think [it's cruel].

I'm going to say too much. It's just a little overrated, and plus Calgary did it first.

A pretty big one. We're from Calgary and go to Stampede every year, so it's a big thing there. I think it's fun. Some people might have different opinions because of animal cruelty or whatever, but I think it's fun as long as nobody gets hurt.

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# ESA protests more budget cuts

SEAN STEELS  
Senior News Editor

Education students will rally today on the legislature's steps for six hours in hopes of reaching the ears of provincial MLAs with one message: stop the cuts.

Students will gather alongside Alberta Teachers Association vice president Sharon Armstrong, Liberal MLAs David Swann and Harry Chase, and NDP MLAs Brian Mason and Rachel Notley, who are all scheduled to speak at the event, asking the provincial government to reconsider a projected \$80-million cut to Alberta's provincial education system.

Alana Blakley, vice president of the Education Students' Association, hopes that by staying on the legislature's steps from noon until 6 p.m., MLAs will be forced to face students affected by budget cuts both entering and exiting the assembly.

"We want to let them know who they're going to be directly affecting is us — new teachers. Where they're going to start cuts is by putting a freeze on hiring. This means that our years of education will mean nothing because they won't be hiring us. We hope this puts a face to the people they're going to be hurting," Blakley said.

Reaction to the current \$80-million announcement has also been invigorated due to the additional projection that said cuts will increase to approximately \$300 million in the 2010/11 budget year.

As Blakley explained, such cuts can not only inconvenience graduates and educators in the short term, but disrupt the long-term flow of knowledge through a discipline.

"If you cut \$300 million from education, it means that in 2015, when a lot of teachers are slated to be retiring, those of us that could be out and have four years of teaching experience and could take over those permanent positions, will be facing a lack of experience," she said.

Ben Malkowich, vice president of professional development with the ESA, echoed Blakley's worries, pointing to experience shortfalls in the

wake of the health care cuts of the 1990s as a perfect example of how cuts can hurt the profession.

"We've come a long way to crawl back up from the cuts in the mid '90s," he said. "Alberta classrooms now have what they call inclusions practices. There's a lot of strain on the classroom teacher, and right now, classroom sizes are quite good. But with the budget cuts, if they choose to increase class sizes, it will put that much more strain on our educators. Teachers will find a way to teach no matter what, but a classroom bursting at the seams is a poor idea no matter what."

But Malkowich admitted that facing the realities of a budget shortfall, cuts might be unstoppable, but that the government should still be looking to educators and their successors to establish where to most efficiently absorb cuts.

"What's important is that negotiations take place. Arbitrary cuts as a result of a weakened economy will hurt everyone. Any alternatives need to be a meeting of the minds. All we're trying to ensure is that our rights are being respected and that the quality of education our children receive is the

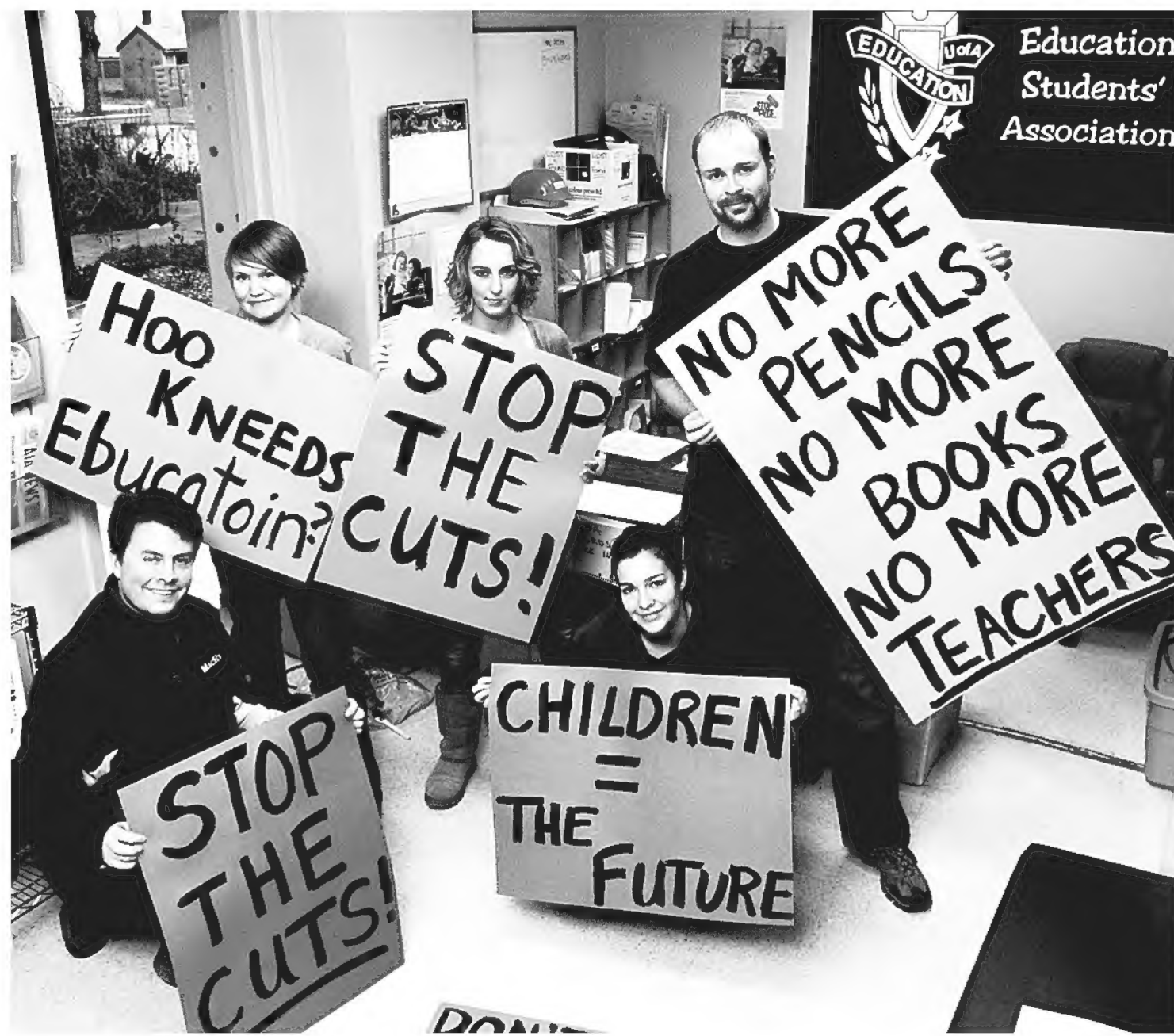
best possible," he said.

According to Kathy Telferd, director of communications with Alberta Education, the government is already taking steps to ensure that the current \$80-million cut will not reach the classroom.

"Within the Department of Education itself, we have already implemented a hiring freeze, and reduced all discretionary spending. We're now looking at programs where we can afford some slowdowns," she explained.

The government has so far been able to begin filling the gap by utilizing surpluses and poaching grants, such as the Fuel Contingency Grant, started in 2005, when gas prices for the school system's bus fleets had climbed to unprecedented levels. The government is certain that cuts will come, although not yet where they will land.

"The fact is that there are a number of things being thrown around with the new budget," Telferd continued. "We want to be open; we want to be creative, and find creative solutions so that students are well served in the classroom."



**PAY GRADE** Members of the ESA show off the signs they'll display on the steps of the legislature this afternoon. They want MLAs to reconsider education cuts.

## Tiny technology promises huge capabilities

KYLE GIBSON  
News Staff

Imagine being able to store 20 times more data than a Blu-ray disc in a square centimetre. New technology being developed at the University of Alberta is working towards just that.

Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering professor Sandipan Pramanik is developing universal memory, which will encompass only the positive attributes of different memory storage methods together. These attributes include storage capacity, read and write speed, cost, and durability.

"None of the memory circuits currently on the market satisfy all these conditions. That's why we've been trying to develop a circuit that satisfies these conditions, and that type of memory is called universal memory," Pramanik said.

The device works on the principle of spintronics and nanotechnology. Nanotechnology allows for data storage cells to be shrunk to a microscopic level, allowing a large amount of cells to be contained in a given area, increasing the amount of data that can be stored.

"The idea is that if we can make

these memory cells smaller and smaller, we can cram more of them into a given area which means we will be able to store a large amount of data in that area," he said.

Spintronics is used to store data on each cell, and is based on a changing resistance level within the cells. A cell with a high resistance will store a "1" while a low resistance will store a "0" — the values that make up the binary language of computers.

The resistance isn't fixed, changing based on carefully measured magnetic forces from spinning electrons. If both cells are magnetized in the same direction, then the resistance will be low, and if they're in opposite directions the resistance will be high.

Popular devices such as iPods and cell phones will see a large benefit from this technology as trends favour smaller technology with increased storage capacity, since the cells can be scaled down to such a small level. It's possible to store far greater amounts of data at a cost of approximately one cent per gigabyte.

Pramanik elaborated that another possible use for this technology would be to streamline computer data storage and eliminate the need for multiple



SAM BROOKS

**SPIN DOCTOR** Pramanik's invention uses "spintronics" to store more data.

devices within computers, noting that each type of memory storage device is good at one aspect, but doesn't encompass a full range of beneficial features.

"If we are able to integrate this technology with computers, we will be able to eliminate boot-up time for computers, essentially making it more like a television," he said.

"Each type of memory is good for one particular job, if we can implement universal memory, we can improve the efficiency of memory storage."

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# Supernova remnant offers clues to neutron star creation

ALEXANDRIA ELDRIDGE  
News Staff

A University of Alberta physicist has identified a supernova remnant which gives valuable insight into the development of neutron stars from a young stage.

When a supernova explodes, it can either produce a black hole, or the core can collapse into a tiny remnant, which is called a neutron star.

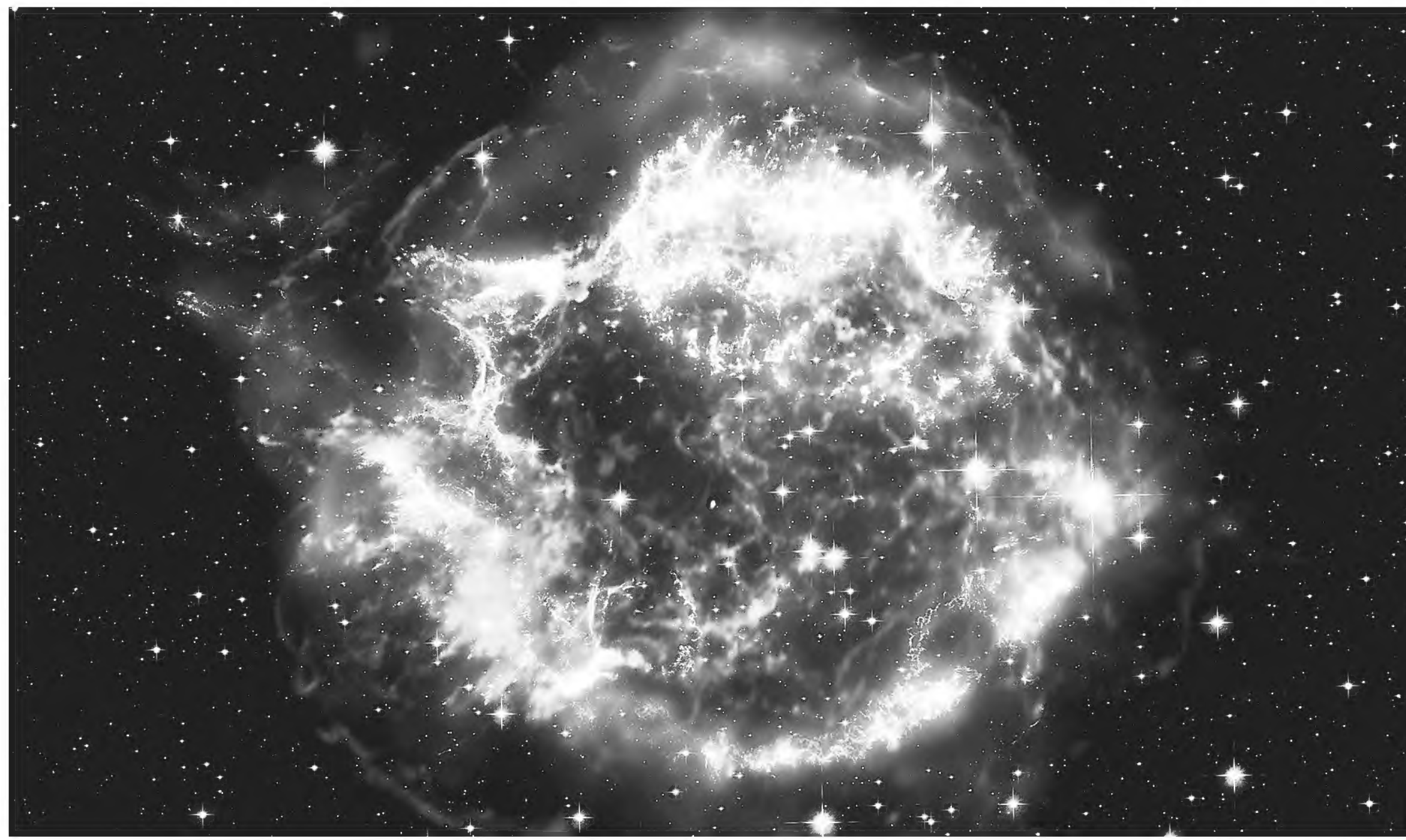
When the Cassiopeia A supernova exploded about 300 years ago, it left behind what appeared to be a neutron star. This remnant was only first viewed in 1999 by a powerful x-ray telescope. Using the radiation emitted from this neutron star, astronomers were able to estimate its size, but were puzzled when calculations predicted much smaller sizes than those of typical neutron stars.

U of A astrophysics professor Craig Heinke explained that neutron stars are mostly packed neutrons, but there also is an atmosphere of about 10 cm thick, which is composed of normal matter. This atmosphere modifies the amount of radiation that reaches earth. In all other neutron stars that astronomers have studied, this atmosphere has been composed of hydrogen.

"You expect to have hydrogen on top and they tried fitting it with a hydrogen atmosphere model but [the size] was not large enough to make it consistent with neutron star," Heinke said.

Many researchers explored the possibility that it was not a neutron star at all, but that theory didn't fit, so Heinke applied other atmospheric models.

"The carbon atmosphere was both a good fit, and it predicted the size of



WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

**OUT WITH A BANG** The Cassiopeia A supernova, approximately 11,000 light years from Earth, resulted in a neutron star.

the neutron star to 20 or 22 km, so suddenly everything fell into place. This could be a neutron star; it just has to have a surface layer of carbon," Heinke said.

But this theory required its own explanation.

"We think that in the early few hundred years of the neutron star's life, the surface of the neutron star is so hot that it's actually able to diffuse hydrogen and helium to carbon," Heinke said.

However, as the neutron star ages, it cools off and its atmosphere changes to hydrogen.

"Material is still gently raining down onto the neutron star, the neutron stars accumulate a layer of

hydrogen that is no longer able to burn off," Heinke explained.

Heinke said that this discovery is significant because it allows understanding into the development of the neutron star's atmosphere, but it also helps explain the composition of the supernova that exploded and is still raining down matter on the neutron star.

"There has to be enough hydrogen in there to be able to rain down onto the neutron star and produce a hydrogen atmosphere over time. We'd like a better understanding of what the interiors of supernovas are like, these being the things that produce all the elements that make up the universe," Heinke said.

Heinke also said that the discovery

could help researchers learn more about the interior of neutron stars by comparing them to other objects with carbon atmospheres.

"There's what you call a quark soup, and that's a hypothesized state of matter which has never been seen; it's possible that that makes up part of the interior of neutron stars," Heinke said.

Sonia Milbradt, the President of the Undergraduate Physics Society said that the discovery is just as interesting for students as it is for scientists.

"I think it's really exciting because it adds to the prestige of our department," Milbradt said. "It helps us to realize that there is important research going on in the department so it increases department pride."

# Parade back after 13 years

RODEO ♦ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"I'm hoping to somehow get out of 12th — I'm stuck there right now," he exclaimed before Sunday's competition, and his last ride in this year's CFR. "I wouldn't mind getting anywhere out of there, but I'll take it as it comes I guess."

While the Canadian Finals Rodeo and Farmfair International are now done for another year, Monika Ross, President of the U of A Agriculture Club, explained that she's aiming to extend the rural festivities for yet another week.

**"We haven't had a parade since '96 when we got banned from doing it for being too rowdy."**

**MONIKA ROSS**  
AGRICULTURE CLUB PRESIDENT

Hoping to stir up enthusiasm for Bar None this week, the Agriculture Club lead a parade through Quad yesterday.

"We haven't had a parade since '96 when we got banned from doing it for being too rowdy," Ross explained, referring to stories of a past rivalry between her faculty and engineers.

"[This year] we worked really hard — now we're putting floats together, we're bringing horses to the city, we might have a couple goats, we have tractors — so it's going to be a good celebration of agriculture and of the aggies on campus."

## The Gateway is hiring TWO Circulation Public Affairs Liaisons (Circulation PALs) to begin in January.

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# Ottawa physicist cracks Newton’s law

MERCEDES MUELLER  
The Fulcrum (University of Ottawa)

OTTAWA (CUP) — A Canadian inventor has dedicated a majority of the past decade to creating a generator that would eliminate the need for oil.

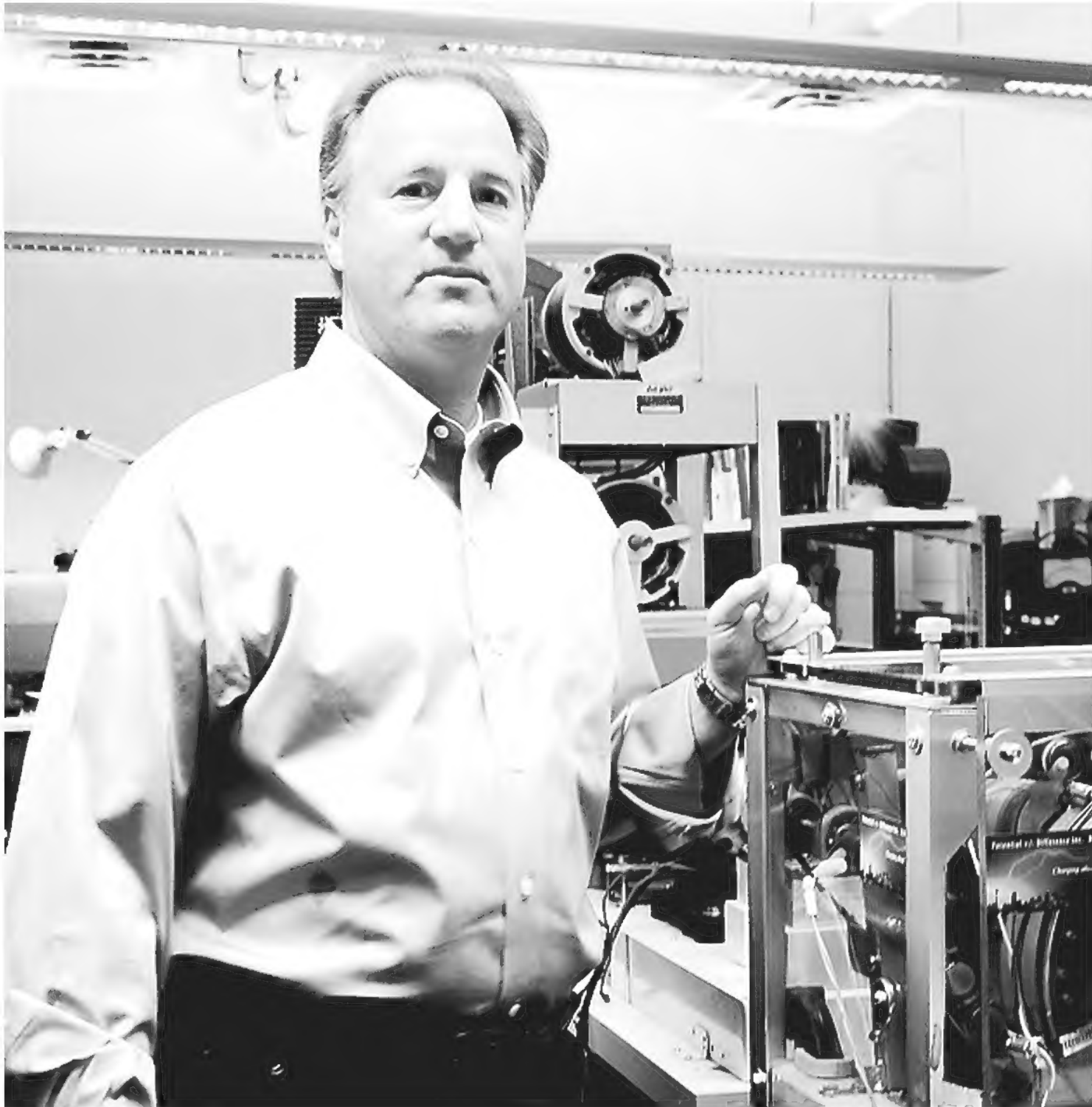
But now, according to the developer Thane Heins, he hasn’t just managed to create a generator that eliminates that need — he’s created a machine that may literally defy the laws of physics.

The regenerative acceleration generator is an induction motor with magnetic material placed inside the rotor core. The machine works by overloading the generator to get a current, which causes wire coil, by which the magnets pass to build up a large electromagnetic field.

Heins’ demonstration involves comparing the effects of supplying electricity to a load, in the form of light bulbs, from both a conventional generator and the regenerative acceleration generator.

After allowing the machine to build up power, he first uses a conventional generator to power a light bulb that requires 0.9 watts of power. Upon turning on the light bulb, the motor instantly begins to decelerate according to Newton’s third law of motion, which states that for every action there is an equal and opposite reaction — this is normal.

In the second half of the demonstration, Heins supplies power to four light bulbs, each requiring 10 watts. However, when Heins’ generator powers the bulbs, it causes the motor to accelerate, implying that the generator is over 100 per cent efficient. The generator, in essence, is creating energy, thus violating the law of conservation of energy, which states that energy can



LAURA CLEMENSTON, THE FULCRUM

**POWER UP** Experts say that, at the least, Heins’ device is exceptionally efficient.

neither be created nor destroyed.

Heins’ design has attracted researchers from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, who were stumped by the atypical manipulation of physics.

“It’s obvious to everybody. The only people that it’s not obvious to are the engineers and PhDs, and [it’s because] their education is an impediment to them understanding it,” Heins said.

The implications of this technology, which has passed the prototyping and proof of concept phase, have yet to be realized, but already players like Magna International, Defence Research and Development Canada, and even the

U.S. Air Force have shown interest in the generator’s capabilities. In particular, Heins is interested in the technology being potentially adopted by the electric car industry.

Heins views this type of technology as capable of causing a paradigm shift in both the energy and business worlds.

“We’re creating a new energy paradigm by basically [finding] a way to exploit a loophole in the laws of physics,” he explained.

The regenerative acceleration generator’s capabilities are currently being assessed by engineers at both the U of O and Magna International.

# Royal visit wraps up in Ottawa

EMMA GODMERE  
CUP Ottawa Bureau Chief

OTTAWA (CUP) — Canadians were given some royal treatment as Prince Charles and his wife Camilla, the Duchess of Cornwall, wrapped up an 11-day, four-province tour of Canada last week.

The royal couple visited 12 cities and communities across Newfoundland, British Columbia, Ontario, and Quebec, and even included a few university stops on their tour. The prince visited Memorial University in St. John’s, Newfoundland, where he toured their marine institute, and Simon Fraser University in Burnaby, B.C., where he participated in a seminar on sustainable urban business.

“We hope our visit will be a real celebration of the vibrant diversity which defines modern Canada, from her ancient traditions to the world-class brilliance of her contemporary culture,” read a statement from the prince on the government’s official royal visit website.

The couple encountered resistance

during the Quebec portion of the trip. In Montreal, a crowd of over 100 Quebec nationalists carried signs, chanted slogans, and at one point even threw eggs, opposing the visit. Three demonstrators were arrested and later released, having only been charged with blocking traffic.

“I fear there was a little local disturbance,” the prince remarked in his speech to the Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment) of Canada at their headquarters in Montreal.

The couple’s travels wrapped up in Ottawa, where they took part in the capital’s Remembrance Day ceremonies at the National War Memorial on November 11.

Thousands gathered to watch motorcades deliver Prime Minister Stephen Harper and his wife and children, Governor General Michaëlle Jean and her husband and daughter, and finally the royal couple to the monument, shortly before 11 a.m.

Another royal visit is planned for 2010, when the Queen and her husband Prince Philip will visit Canada in the spring.



PAUL SWANSON

**ROYAL TREATMENT** The royal couple (right) attended ceremonies in Ottawa.

## Don't Forget to Submit Your Health & Dental Claims from Last Year

ATTENTION: This information is addressed to GSA students only!

### Important notice for students who were enrolled in the GSA Health and/or Dental Plan in 2008-2009

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING CLAIMS FROM LAST YEAR (for students covered in 2008-2009)**

All health and/or dental claims incurred on or before August 31, 2009 (for the 2008-2009 policy year) must be **received** by the insurance company (**Sun Life**) by **November 27, 2009**.

In order to ensure that studentcare.net/works can transfer your claims by the deadline, they must be **dropped off at the Health & Dental Plan Office no later than Tuesday, November 24, 2009**.

If you're mailing claims directly to the insurance company, please leave adequate time for delivery. The address for Sun Life is recorded on the back of all claim forms.

Claims received after the deadline will not be reimbursed.

Claim forms are available at [www.ihaveaplan.ca](http://www.ihaveaplan.ca).

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SUB 026, Lower Level  
Toll-free: 1 866 795-4430

**ihaveaplan.ca**



# FREEDOM FROM



I can't say that I remember the fall of Berlin Wall 20 years ago — in 1989, I was only six years old and in the first grade. When the wall fell on November 9 of that year, I was most likely engrossed in scouring my dwindling Halloween sack through the dregs of Thrills gum and candy corn for any last chocolate.

As we crammed on the discount flight from London to Berlin, evermore like cattle, I rummaged through my memories of that time. All I can really remember from that period is the sadness of the Wayne Gretzky trade and sharing in the universal anger towards Peter Pocklington the year before. I don't recall sitting at the television and watching big-haired Germans in neon clothing scrambling on top of the wall.

Word and photos by  
Joeshan Chowdhury



**I RECALLED A STORY FROM AN OLDER FRIEND TELLING ME OF HIS CROSSING INTO EAST BERLIN AT THE CHECKPOINT. APPROACHING IN HIS HIRED CAR, HE STOPPED AT THE CHECKPOINT, THEN MANNED BY AMERICAN SOLDIERS. HE CAME UP TO THE AMERICAN G.I. AND SAID, "I'M HEADING TO EAST BERLIN," TO WHICH HE REPLIED, "THAT'S YOUR PROBLEM."**



I approached German customs at the airport feeling slightly unworthy of entry for lacking a personal connection to such a historic moment. Thankfully, the German police officer neither noticed nor cared as he precisely stamped at a perfect right angle the top-left corner of the first available page in my passport — a subtle sign of orderly German efficiency in contrast to the other stamps strewn haphazardly about the rest of my passport. It might have also helped that the mean age on the flight from London was probably in the mid-20s. Somewhat appropriate that since the wall came down not from those at the top, but the pressure of ordinary citizens — mostly youth — that the next generation of youth would flock to commemorate its fall.

Then, Berlin and the wall that divided it for 28 years was a microcosm for the Cold War and the fate of Berlin in many ways reflected that of the continent. The postwar division of Berlin by the Allies and Soviets in 1949 mirrored the larger divide of Germany and that of Europe between the West and Eastern Bloc as it came to be known. From 1949, over 3 million East Germans — mainly professionals and skilled labourers — fled from the state-controlled economy of communism to the free market of democratic capitalism. The wall that came up in 1961 to stop the hemorrhage symbolized the Iron Curtain that stretched from Baltic to the Black Sea. Just as the wall stood as symbol of the Cold War, its fall on November 9, 1989 heralded the reunification of Germany less than a year later and the fall of the Soviet Union only two years after youths

began hacking away at the wall.

Now, Berlin and the remnants of its wall are the epicentre of art and style. With an abundance of cheap housing — Berlin's population a fraction of its height during World War II — trendy students and bohemian artists have flocked to the city. Its edgy modern style can be seen in the public art from the train as it comes in from the airport, worn on the streets in bold fashion, and heard in techno-beats by DJs bred in the dance halls.

With so many people converging on Berlin for the anniversary, hotels and hostels were either sold out or outrageously expensive. Fortunately, I had a friend who knew students in Berlin, and we found ourselves in a communist-era apartment block just outside the East Berlin Train Station (Ostbahnhof) made famous by Jason Bourne in *The Bourne Supremacy*. The drab-but-functional concrete blocks were a clear sign that one was on the communist side of the wall. The names of the avenues were also obvious — *Karl-Marx-Allee* and *Straße der Pariser Kommune* in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the Paris Commune. The cameras in the elevators of the apartment block were a reminder of the once ever-watchful state.

The night before the anniversary, our hosts took us to a concert held at Kesselhaus — a boiler house that had been converted into a "cultural brewery". Hosted by the *Deutsch-Französisches Jugendwerk* (French-German Office for Youth), French and German rock bands took turns blaring songs in their and each other's language to a young and hip crowd drinking Kronenbourg 1664

and Beck's. The concert's theme was unmissable — a celebration of cultural exchange for two nations that had spent most of their past fighting. It seemed oblivious to the crowd of young French and Germans trading language, music, beer, not to mention intimacies, which was perhaps the point.

The day of the anniversary, festivities had been planned for the evening, leaving the day to explore the city. Close to our hosts is the famed East Side Gallery — a 1.3 km section of the wall that was preserved and in 1989 was given to over to 100 artists from all over the world. The artworks have since been undergoing restoration in time for the anniversary. The dramatic and thought provoking, for the most part, revolve around the themes of freedom and oppression. The most famous, "My God help me, this deadly love to survive" of kissing communist leaders Leonid Brezhnev and Erich Honecker, was constantly surrounded by crowds.

As we walked along the mile of wall, I noticed a familiar figure that I soon identified as Mohammed Yunus, the founder of Grameen Bank and 2006 Noble Peace Prize laureate. As a fellow Bangladeshi, I must admit I was a bit star struck to meet the man on the street and speak to him in my rough Bengali, especially after hearing him speak a year earlier at Oxford as the prestigious Romanes Lecturer. Dr. Yunus later spoke at the official festivities urging the leaders in attendance and the audience to mark the celebration of the Berlin Wall's demise by committing to bring down the walls of poverty that entrap more than a billion people on the planet.



# AGED BARRIERS



Before heading to the main venue of the celebrations, we detoured to Checkpoint Charlie — the most well-known crossing point between West and East Berlin. I recalled a story from an older friend telling me of his crossing into East Berlin at the checkpoint. Approaching in his hired car, he stopped at the checkpoint, then manned by American soldiers. He came up to the American G.I. and said, “I’m heading to East Berlin,” to which he replied, “That’s your problem” and passed him along. The checkpoint where Soviet and American tanks faced off in 1961 is now a tourist destination with a replica of the checkpoint and the ominous signs warning in several languages that you are leaving the American sector. The street is lined by street vendors selling poor imitations of East German military paraphernalia.

Later, we made our way down along Berlin’s most renowned boulevard, *Unter den Linden* (under the linden trees), lined on either side by landmarks and museums and bordering *Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin* where Marx and Engels studied. The boulevard ends at the famous Brandenburg Gate where Reagan declared, “Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall!” More recently, U2 held an ironically fenced-off concert at the gate a few days before the ceremony.

For the anniversary, the city erected over 1,000 giant dominoes of styrofoam over two kilometres where the 43 km wall once stood. Most of the dominoes had been decorated by local school children, but a number were also sent all over world, including South Africa to be painted by Nelson Mandela and Palestine to be

painted by school children living in the shadow of the wall being put up by Israel. We walked along the dominoes where the wall once stood from the newly restored Reichstag parliament along to the haunting Holocaust Memorial. The memorial is a sloping field of concrete slabs that at the edges are the height of benches, but as you approach the centre of the sloping field, grow in height to several feet. Underneath the memorial is the museum. Walking amongst the grid of rising slabs leaves one slightly disoriented and lost — the intended effect.

As the evening progressed, the crowds and the rain became more intense. We gathered amongst the assembled masses along the dominoes in front of the Brandenburg Gate and wondered why we didn’t bring umbrellas as rain poured down on us. By the time the official ceremonies began with an orchestra, the entire plaza around the gate was a sea of people separated only by the foam blocks. Stalls selling *Glühwein* — a hot spiced wine punch that is a staple during Christmas — was the only defense against the cold. Alas, not even layers of rain gear could keep one dry.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel lead the invited heads of state — Nicolas Sarkozy of France, Gordon Brown of Britain, Dmitry Medvedev of Russia, Hillary Clinton of the U.S.A., and former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev — through the central pillars of the gate that were once cut off by the wall. Each leader repeated refrains of congratulations to the Berliners that brought the wall down and to commit to continue to bring down barriers to freedom.

Interestingly, the crowd booed Sarkozy, was relatively silent for Medvedev, and in cheers for Clinton as she introduced a video by U.S. President Barak Obama who said, “Few would have foreseen [...] that a united Germany would be led by a woman from Brandenburg, or that their American ally would be led by a man of African descent. But human destiny is what human beings make of it.”

Finally, after a performance by Bon Jovi while a video played of him in longer hair and tighter jeans hammering at the wall, Polish solidarity leader Lech Walesa with his signature moustache toppled the first domino as the crowd extended cameras to capture the moment. As the dominoes passed in front of the gate, fireworks lit up the Brandenburg Gate.

Walking back along the now-fallen monoliths to *Postdamer Platz*, we tried to grasp the significance of the anniversary. One of our group suggested that since we have never been behind a wall, had to endure checkpoints, or live under such oppression, that we couldn’t truly appreciate the moment in full. But we could at least celebrate it through appreciating our own freedom. Our political and moral leaders reminded us that ordinary Berliners on both sides, not political leaders, brought the wall down.

We are told to commemorate the moment by fighting to bring down the walls that still exist. Later, we walked pass a fallen domino with a depiction of the wall between Israel and Palestine. I wonder if one day we will see that wall come down but then I realize wondering is not enough.



**THE CONCERT’S THEME WAS UNMISSABLE — A CELEBRATION OF CULTURAL EXCHANGE FOR TWO NATIONS THAT HAD SPENT MOST OF THEIR PAST FIGHTING. IT SEEMED OBLIVIOUS TO THE CROWD OF YOUNG FRENCH AND GERMANS TRADING LANGUAGE, MUSIC, BEER, NOT TO MENTION INTIMACIES, WHICH WAS PERHAPS THE POINT.**





## Bylaw 2000: A Defaced Odyssey

AS A STAUNCH SUPPORTER OF REFORMING THE Students' Union's Elections, Plebiscites, and Referenda Bylaw, I was pleased by last week's news that the Bylaw 2000 Review Committee was, well, was actually doing *something*. The committee, created by the Students' Council Administration Committee back in July, has been unnaturally silent regarding its proceedings so far; they've only made one (oral) report to Council, and currently have no agendas or minutes — or any documents at all, for that matter — available for viewing on the SU's website. So it was a pleasant surprise to have them finally reach out to the undergraduate constituency, in the form of the SU elections review survey.

The survey itself is very thorough. It covers all the bases it needs to, and more; every part of the bylaw gets scrutinized in the questionnaire, and I commend the review committee for their work in creating it. So here's to you, Bylaw 2000 Review Committee, you've done good. I'm impressed.

Unfortunately, I was less impressed with President Kory Mathewson's comments on bylaw reform, which oddly seemed to be less focused on policy and more focused on his pet project — the ever-present problem of student engagement. I'm not sure why Mathewson chose to conflate the two issues. The review committee should stay focused on improving elections rules and regulations, and not figuring out how to get more students out to the polls; after all, there's no bylaw dictating the marketing plans for Anti-Freeze, or how many ads the SU should put in the *Gateway* every year.

But let's humour Kory for a second, and assume that bylaw reform combined with the B2RC feedback survey will somehow do something to help with the issue of voter turnout. Mathewson claims that the recent success of his SU Student Survey is an indicator that students are interested in their Students' Union, and thus, by that logic, undergrads will undoubtedly be flocking to the Bylaw 2000 questionnaire.

What our president neglects to factor in is that there were substantial incentives for filling out his survey. The review committee — to the best of my knowledge — has no mini-fridges to spare. Additionally, there was significant marketing to promote the SU's general survey, while B2RC hasn't done anything in the way of publicizing its feedback form — if it weren't for a post to Twitter by the Vice President (External), I wouldn't have heard about the survey at all.

It's naïve to think that the Bylaw 2000 survey by itself will come anywhere close to the nearly 7,000 responses that Mathewson's undergraduate survey garnered. Without the right incentives and promotions, the average U of A student isn't going to fill out a questionnaire on SU bylaws. In fact, you're far more likely to find people to vote in the executive elections: you don't necessarily need a grasp on the issues to vote for President — or to run for the post, for that matter — it's a lot simpler than answering detailed questions on election regulations.

President Mathewson also mentioned that social networking could help promote elections, and here I don't disagree with him. (Addressing social networking actually happens to be under the purview of the Bylaw 2000 Review Committee, insofar as it's classified under a form of campaign materials.) But Facebook and Twitter and its digital accomplices are far from one-click solutions to lacklustre voter turnout, and student engagement as a whole. To truly recapture the interest of the undergraduate population, the SU needs to become *our* Students' Union. Bylaw reforms and surveys won't engage undergrads unless they have relevance to undergrads, and until the SU realizes and takes action on this simple fact, they'll keep surveying around in circles. Time for Mathewson to realize it's going to take more than MacBooks and mini-fridges to make students care again.

LUCAS WAGNER  
Online Editor

## Get Carrie'd away

Larry King hits nerve  
Why buy Prejean's stupid book?  
Let's see the sex tape!

SARAH STEAD & NICK FROST  
¿Quién es muy macho?



MIKE KENDRICK

from THE  
web

### The whiteness of being

RE: "Racism backlash not unwarranted" (November 5)

What confuses me is the way this subject is being approached. Why are women's few positive steps towards equality being perceived as something so negative? The posters were funny in the fact that they portrayed how ridiculous this concern is about the apparent disadvantage of white males in the education system. Middle class boys are at higher risk of behaviour problems in houses where parents are dual earners, but does this mean they are disadvantaged? Not in my books.

The only reason this is receiving such focus is the misconception surrounding feminism, which I personally feel should be referred to an anti-sexism. Feminism is not merely about women gaining power; it is about a balance, and for men to feel so threatened that this becomes a societal issue only proves how disadvantaged women remain in contemporary society.

I feel that the president should be focusing on something that is more important, like the mismanagement of \$ 60 million of the U of A's budget, or finding ways to fundraise so that the president and administrative staff can take the burden of this debt off students who already pay too

much.

On a final note, for the amount I am paying, (and which consistently increases each year) I want and deserve my say in any and all subjects concerning the U of A community without the fear of being charged with malicious content. That's absolutely astounding.

Anyway, I completely agree. Very well written, Sarah.

CAROLINE  
Via Internet

### Turn the mother cheek

RE: "Racism backlash not unwarranted" (November 5)

As a teacher and mother of two sons, I applaud the U of A president for highlighting this issue. Ms. Samarasekera has not said that white males are disadvantaged — she has simply commented on an inequality. There is ample research showing that girls' achievements in math and science have improved dramatically over the last 30 years, but boys' achievements in reading and writing have declined. Boys not attending university, whether due to lack of interest or ability, is a concern to me. I am proud to be a feminist because I believe in equality for all members of society. It is very important that as we strive for equality we do not brand my sons, my husband and my brother as enemies, or expect them to pay for sins they didn't commit. I am much more concerned about my sons' future access to opportunities than I am about the inequalities between

my grandparents, and I am happy that Ms. Samarasekera is in our corner.

On the other hand, I'd also like to thank the SRT for their campaign. While I disagree with their comments, without them, a very important issue would have gone unnoticed and that would have been truly unfortunate. In the end, conversations like these are essential on a university campus, and I am excited to see both the SRT and Indira Samarasekera engaging each other. Only good can come of this "controversy."

JESSICA SACHS  
Via Internet

### Blame America!

RE: "Shooting through our national stereotypes" (November 5)

This is so true! Canadians love to hate on the Americans, calling them arrogant and ignorant, not realizing how hypocritical they are being. Somehow us Canadians ended up with really big egos. I currently live with a bunch of Americans in my residence, and they are not half as arrogant as most of the Canadians I know.

While I don't agree that Canadians are completely the same as Americans in terms of our culture, I am not at all offended when Americans say that Canadians are no different than them. This opinion piece highly amused me.

LEILA MCMANN  
Via Internet

### Playing hallways

RE: "The Burlap Sack: Rehearsal Space" (November 12)

But then again, there is nothing more satisfying than rehearsing a scene in the FAB hallway where characters yell at each other as the poor design students walk by and wonder why Drama students can never get along.

(I completely agree with you, regardless.)

RYAN  
Via Internet

### Apathetic way to be

RE: "SU looks to boost election turnout with promotion, student feedback" (November 12)

I rarely try and vote in student elections because why bother? The result is always the same. It doesn't matter who gets in, because nothing gets accomplished, and you only have to look at the few previous years to see the direction that the university has been heading. We get all these nice speeches about how "I'm going to make the university experience meaningful" or "I'm going to try and improve the services that students get" or some such garbage almost every year. But take a look at your fees and services and realize that you have been paying steadily more for increasingly less.

Tuition increases are inevitable, because we have no say in the matter — how deluded we let ourselves get.

PLEASE SEE LETTERS • PAGE 9



# And now, a brief head-to-head on a rather seated debate

Just because men *can* urinate standing up doesn't mean they should Standing for a wizz is mankind's inalienable right — don't deny it



EVAN  
MUDRYK

point

It might sound crazy, but I'm a man that always chooses to sit down. And I mean at every opportunity. I sit down to eat, when I'm in class, if I'm on the bus — the elderly and the pregnant be damned, I'm plopping my butt down. Some might say I take sitting down too far. For the most part, I've been able to live a relatively normal life — well, that's not completely true: I can't participate in many social functions, like dancing, because of my refusal to be erect, and I can't attend church either, because of their very strict, rise-when-we-arbitrarily-tell-you-to policy. If I'm not going to stand for Jesus, I'm probably not going to stand for anyone else.

That aside, I've been ostracized nearly all my life for admitting to habitually sitting down on the toilet, regardless of my having to go number one or two. Some might say it's my birthright to pee standing up and that I'm wasting God's gift by sitting, but I disagree, and here's why.

I'm a busy guy, and despite what I said earlier, there are certain times in life where one can't help but stand. For instance, sometimes no chairs are provided, or the floor might be too dirty, or too slippery, or too made-of-lava. Other times, I just need to move from one place to the other. Moving is the unavoidable, crappy part of life,

but sitting down is the milk and honey — the lone justice in an unfair world. I'll stand up to anyone who disagrees with this — or at least raise my chin in a pronounced fashion.

Sitting down on a toilet has other advantages besides appealing to my lazy inclinations. While seated, one avoids the much-maligned "splash-back" that has moistened many a pant leg, and forced too many dates into awkward moments with unexplainable wetness. Additionally, peeing in the dark is a cakewalk for us sitters, allowing us to remain in our zombie-like daze, instead of being blinded by the light like you ignorant standees, who usually miss the target as a result.

So-called friends have argued that sitting down is unsanitary, and while there are indeed stalls that would make even a pig wrestler gag, most toilet seats are relatively germ-free, at least with respect to our already germ-ridden world. I mean, we specifically scrub toilet seats with disinfecting chemicals routinely — how often do doorknobs or bus railings get such a treatment?

I'd also like to say that I'm a big believer that men and women should be equal in all respects, even if it means handicapping us boys in a few of them. So I'm campaigning to have urinals made illegal, though so far only Mayor Murray from Turtle Mountain, Manitoba has replied to my letters. But I'm still optimistic that someday we'll live in a world with unisex washrooms, where we can all sit together as one. This way, I won't have to sneak into the women's washroom like I usually do. But don't get the wrong impression — I'm not a pervert. I just very much prefer the cleaner seats.



DOUG  
JOHNSON

counterpoint

My weak-kneed opponent can raise his chin in protest all he damn wants; it doesn't change the fact that peeing standing up is one of the best parts of being a man. Ignoring this fact is tantamount to slapping God, nature, and our forefathers in the face.

I appreciate sitting down — who doesn't? But sitting down on a toilet in the men's room is just plain unsanitary. God knows who could've been doing God-knows-what in the isolated confines of those stalls. I could try to forget the details, but someone could have been snorting coke off the seats or manipulating themselves to pictures of Oprah Winfrey exactly where certain pro-sitters would have you set your rump down to take a piss. It doesn't matter where you go: the men's washroom is *always* disgusting. It's anarchy in there. Why anyone would want to spend more time on those despoiled floors than necessary is a mystery at best and a seedy enigma at worst.

If my opponent was really a busy guy, he would realize that he's been wasting precious seconds out of every day of his life just to have a moment of Zen while bleeding the lizard. This is not what taking a piss is about. Opening

the flood gate is a utilitarian bodily function; it's not a party, it's not meditation — it's just taking a piss. Look at it this way: back in pre-history, our ancestors couldn't take their jolly time relieving themselves, because they did it to mark their territory. If they wasted time and distance in squatting to the ground, they would've run a higher risk of getting mauled by a woolly mammoth or a sabre-toothed tiger. Admittedly, it's not a life-or-death issue nowadays, but those few seconds could be better spent studying or even just sitting down in a less nauseating environment.

And then there's the cultural argument. We live in Canada, and writing your name in the snow with pee is almost a rite of passage here. It's a sacred declaration that you were willing to brave the freezing cold, and accompanying shrinkage, to let everyone know that you were there and you are a man who needed to take a piss. I defy my opponent to do this sitting down. Unless you're some kind of derriere-contortionist, it's going to be impossible.

Yes, the splash-back issue does happen when using a urinal, and yes, it is disgusting. Splash-back is an ever-present threat and it can't be solved by simply sitting down on a toilet; when it happens, it affects your unprotected skin and feels just plain wrong.

I think it's a privilege to be able to stand up when I take a leak, and I don't think I am alone in this. I'm a major supporter of following natural instincts and it's a man's natural instinct to piss with his ass perpendicular to the ground. Anything else is just a crime against nature.

LETTERS ♦ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

With that in mind, you would think that the SU execs would fight to get us better services, like being able to pay tuition by credit card again. When the U of A took that payment option away, it was in order to save somewhere around \$1 million. The questions that our exec didn't ask were, "What are we getting in return for this savings?" and "Where is that money going to go?" Not only did we not know where that money was going or if it was going to benefit the students in some fashion, we also just lost a payment option. Which meant for some that they'd have to wait for student loans, or try to get enough into an account so we can cut them a check. At least with the credit card,

the University was paid, and the threat of being dumped because of failure to pay fees wasn't hanging over so many heads.

If the SU wants to reduce voter apathy, they should give up on that dream until they actually accomplish something that they say they will, or start bringing back better services to the students.

Finally, why is it that every SU exec picture is one of them with a dopey shit-eating grin, like they're so proud of how little they do? I want to see an exec with a big scowl because they read this and realized how little they actually accomplish and how little they matter in the grand scheme of things.

DANNY  
Via Internet

Closed Sesame provokes nostalgia

RE: "Sesame Street sadly stricken" (November 12)

I completely agree. The show that once taught us we don't need to have everything — just our imaginations, — has now become a band-aid for creative programming. I guess the reality that you have to be annoying, loud, or rude to get anything doesn't make for a good television show. Reality TV is reality in some regards, when people can't walk away and chose another product in our consumption drive lives, they get their back up and prepare to fight. People are not working towards the common good, only their own good.

"Can you tell me how to get, how to get to Sesame Street?" I want to find that magical place. Even if it is

low income and full of trash, at least it was full of fun people helping and teaching each other.

"RHYN0"  
Via Internet

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of SUB, sent via paper aeroplane or sent to [letters@gateway.ualberta.ca](mailto:letters@gateway.ualberta.ca). Website comments may also occasionally be used. Like this week. Yeah, they gots used a lot.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the author's name, program, year of study and student identification number to be considered for publication.

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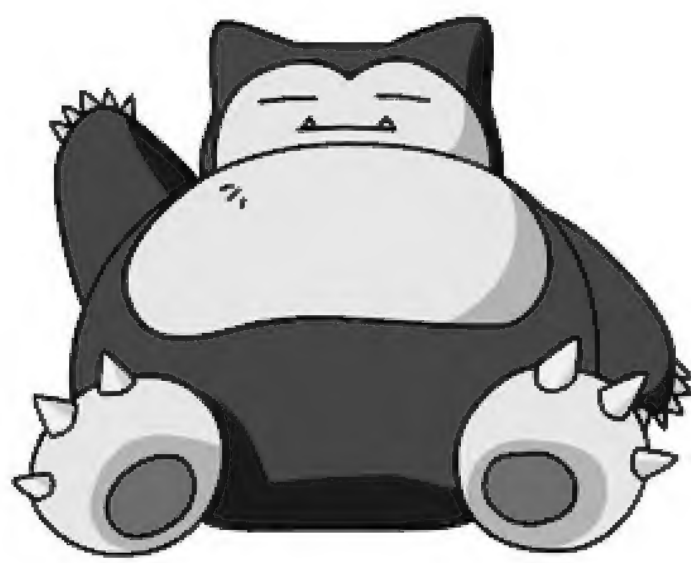


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### VIDEO GAME ANTIQUITIES:



snorlax

Pokémon # 143. 1014 lbs. Nearly seven feet tall. Extraordinarily tempting to blow your Master Ball upon. In the many ensuing sequels, there have been many Pokémon bigger than the original games' lethargic leviathan, but none so awesome or pillow-like. Just another reminder that sequels and updates do not necessarily indicate an increase in quality. Nor are they as adorable — just look at that little face! So cute! So bouncy!

Gateway Opinion could probably do with a Snorlax or two around the office, as the massive bouncy bulk obviously belies a sinister yet dopey intelligence. If you think you could match wits with the titan of torpor, then slink on up to SUB 3-04 on Tuesdays at 5 P.M. or drop us a line at [opinion.gateway.ualberta.ca](http://opinion.gateway.ualberta.ca), and we'll see just how a Normal-type can evolve into something far more journalistic.

On the other hand, if you support Gyrados, you're probably going to want Arts & Entertainment. Oh, and News is Jigglypuff.

## GATEWAY Opinion

BULLISHLY DOZING OUR ENEMIES SINCE 1910

# Debunking the debating dilemma



IAN  
PHILLIPCHUK

**“By freely admitting their own sway on matters, Jon Stewart and Stephen Colbert can present information in a way that goes beyond simple reporting, and can try to grow and foster debate, so that understanding can be expanded upon.”**

**L**ike many people my age, I routinely watch those bastions of youth political angst: *The Daily Show*, and its sister show *The Colbert Report*. I try my best to keep up to date on the episodes for political tidbits, and the 20 minutes or so I spend watching the opening monologues online is at least interesting, if not sometimes hilarious. But the way that these shows are treated by our generation has its own inherent problems, which brings us to tonight's word: The Death of Discourse.

Comedy Central's late-night youth magnets have popularized politics in a way that no other program has been able to duplicate. Other than Tina Fey's sidesplitting run on *Weekend Update*, no one else in recent memory has treated politics as anything other than talk-show pundit fodder. The modern news networks definitely haven't, with programming like Fox News' "No Spin Zone" setting new records for irony in action.

*The Daily Show* and *The Colbert Report*, on the other hand, spend their days looking at the world through decidedly blue-coloured glasses. The hosts have confirmed in the past that what they do is meant to be entertainment, not editorial; the fact is, however, many people ignore that fact and treat what the two late-night comedy

programs due as the gods' honest truth, instead of what it really is.

Don't get me wrong — I'm not defending the political flaws that Jon Stewart and Stephen Colbert take such perverse delight in bringing forth. Politicians *should* be reamed out when their statements and sentiments drastically contradict either themselves or common sense. I don't hate the shows, you see; I just hate the people that watch them.

I'm no stranger to debate, and will engage in an argument from indefensible positions simply for the purposes of expanding awareness, but more and more I just find my opponents parroting whatever the Stewart or Colbert opinion is on any given issue. When I raise objections based on information not covered on the programs, at best I am greeted with blank stares — and at worst claims of bias or outright lies.

Look at it another way — the whole point of Stewart and Colbert's pointing out of bias, contradiction or misleading information is to instill in their audiences a sense of cynicism, and to encourage critical thought and discourse. By freely admitting their own sway on matters, the hosts can present information in a way that goes beyond simple reporting, and can try to grow and foster debate, so that understanding can be expanded upon.

Sure they present opinions on issues, siding with the left more often than not, but there's a difference between them presenting the information to an average viewer, and said viewer repeating their arguments verbatim. While there's always a sense of humour implicit to their presentation, the viewer relating them shouldn't just rebrand them as pure facts. Are all the people in the Tea Party movement crazed cross-gun wielding extremists? Of course not. Is Barack Obama descended from heaven to cure the sick and deliver us from the Republicans? What are you on, and where can I get some?

The two shows have, for better or for worse, become the news source of choice for the youth of America and Canada for a reason: the hosts provide insightful (if biased) analysis on current events, and wrap it all up with a healthy dose of comedic effect. Treating it as anything more than this does a disservice to the creators, who want to encourage arguments and discussion. Due to parroting of their arguments and a lack of the insight they try to inspire, however, both shows are killing the discourse they're trying to encourage.

And that's the word.

## Shoot-to-kill policy is right bang-on target



AARON  
YEO

policy that works.

People opposed to these methods claim that a three-year-old boy was in no way a hazard to well-armed law enforcement officers. However, if the police started to ignore kids, what's to stop criminals from seeing the flaws and employing prepubescent boys and girls to peddle drugs, or even worse, unknowingly undertake suicide bombing missions? Opening the door to ignoring potential threats based on age profiling simply may not be an option in such a turbulent environment.

**Innocent bystanders will occasionally get caught in the crossfire, but it's a necessary drawback effected from having a quick-acting police force.**

Some have suggested lowering the lethality of the weapons — namely, arming most cops in South Africa with rubber bullets, pepper spray, and tasers, tools designed to only incapacitate suspects. This is a step in the completely wrong direction. Firstly, we've all seen the accounts where these supposedly non-deadly weapons have, in fact, killed innocent people, as such was the case in Vancouver International Airport two years ago. But more importantly, the assumed harmlessness and safety of these devices will simply encourage police forces to use them on anyone

and everyone. After all, if you're only going to temporarily disable someone, then it won't matter if you make a mistake, and it will just lead to even more wrongful casualties.

The death of little Atlegang is receiving too much angry, reactionary media attention — it's merely a mistake that came about from having effective law enforcement policies. People are slandering a government agency because of what is, in the grand scheme of things, one small slip-up, and paying no attention to the rest of the time when lawbreakers are being successfully apprehended. Gang violence and organized crime are very common in South Africa, and trying to control the situation is a terribly difficult burden for the police. Innocent bystanders, both young and old, *will* occasionally get caught in the crossfire, but it's a necessary drawback effected from having a quick-acting police force.

Throwing restrictions on cops or applying more stringent definitions on when it's right to shoot and when it's not will only hinder them from doing their jobs, and presenting greater risks to the population and themselves. These officers have been trained to work in very dangerous situations, and taking a few extra seconds to analyze the situation can often mean the difference between life and death for all parties involved, not just the one on the receiving end of the barrel. Making a rare mistake and letting go of an innocent life in order to protect others is a risk that is well worth it in the end. It's harsh to say the ends justify the means, but oftentimes they do.



# Swollen Members survive and thrive after addiction

## musicpreview

### Swollen Members

With Guests

Wednesday, November 18 at 8 p.m.  
Dinwoodie Lounge (2-000 SUB)  
\$15 at ticketmaster.ca

SEAN STEELS  
Senior News Editor

A life in the music industry can teach someone many hard lessons in many ways, but as emcee Prevail, one third of Vancouver rap group Swollen Members can explain, the toughest of life's lessons usually come from the least expected places.

"You always think that you can know a guy inside out," Prevail remarks on his bandmate Mad Child. "The truth about humanity in general is you can never know everything about somebody, whether you're married to them for 50 years or known them for five minutes."

The bond of trust between the two was tested when Mad Child recently admitted publicly that in the years since the release of the group's 2006 studio album, he had been addicted to pain killers and other pharmaceuticals.

"It's something that was being conducted behind closed doors for about nine months before being brought to light as an addiction," Prevail says. "On stage, we'd done shows in the past where 99 per cent of the time, I felt that I'd be able to read his body language, and all the small, intricate things that make up the show that only the band notices. There were times when he was on the Vicodins and the Oxies and all that shit where that connection was harder to find on stage."

But with Mad Child now on the path to recovery from his addiction, the two, along with third bandmate Rob the Viking, and a host of other collaborators, including Tre Nyce, Talib Kweli, and Tech N9ne, have released Swollen Members' latest studio album, *Armed to the Teeth*.

In fact, 2009, a full decade since the release



of their debut album *Balance*, has been a year of unprecedented creativity and output for the band, also seeing the release of solo projects from both Mad Child and Prevail. Prevail admits his own EP release, *Baseball Bat and Nails*, gave him a creative outlet for some of his darker emotions.

"It's great to be able to have your own individual voice to touch on the subject that might not necessarily fit into the schematic of what Swollen Members would talk about on a regular basis," he describes.

One such song on the release, "The Threes" gave Prevail a chance to explore life's problems by inserting himself into the lives of multiple characters: a child with separating parents, a young bulimic girl, and an emotionally downed and newly found baby-daddy. Between a bandmates struggle with addiction, one might think

Prevail would have material enough to brood, but the streets of Vancouver offer up an endless supply of those in need of support.

"I was walking down the street, and I had this kid come up to me and give me a note. It was very odd. Inside of the letter was basically a suicide note," he shares.

The young man, a fan of the band intent on taking his own life, had approached the artist in desperation.

"[We] moved back to my crib, and blazed a doob, drank some tea, and sort of talked for a couple of hours — trying to put this kid in a better head space. We ended up conversing for a few months after that, and I feel like when we broke our communication, I felt like our friendship affected both of us really positively and gave us a better outlook on life."

But even so, the emotional chains turning

the new album haven't all resulted in sonic despair. The disc — as evidenced from the group's new, groupie-enshrined video for the song "Bollywood Chick" — still pulses more strongly like the bulb-flash of Los Angeles glam than that of a rent heart.

And to keep the momentum, the band have already begun production on their next album, *Beautiful Death Machine* slated for release in 2010. The group seems anxious, at the least, to continue translating their pain to platinum.

"[The last three years were] a growing experience for Swollen Members as a group. It really proved the loyalty we have amongst each other, [and] the respect amongst each other to pull each other up. The last couple of years have been a roller coaster for sure, but I feel like now, with *Armed to the Teeth* on the market, we've found our path in the dark."



# Rock 'n' Roll explores history and music

## theatrereview

### Rock 'n' Roll

Directed by Donna Feore  
Starring Alex Paxton Beesley, Patrick Kwok Choon, Sascha Cole, Belinda Cornish, Jacklyn Francis, John Kirkpatrick, Cyrus Lane, Fiona Reid, Shaun Smyth, and Kenneth Welsh  
November 7-29, check for times  
Shoctor Theatre at the Citadel Theatre (9828-101A Ave.)  
\$45-\$65 at citadeltheatre.com

AARON YEO  
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Some Pink Floyd. A little Velvet Underground. A bit of Bob Dylan. Some more Pink Floyd, then a dash of U2. These were just some of the artists with whom playwright Tom Stoppard used to pepper his 2006 piece *Rock 'n' Roll*. Despite the misleadingly simple title, the play is a well-crafted, multifaceted show dealing with important social issues and the constantly changing political scene of Eastern Europe.

The first scene begins at Cambridge University in 1968, as the golden age of counterculture music was forming. Max (Kenneth Welsh) is a social history

professor as well as an active member of the local British communist party. He takes one of his students, a Czech named Jan (Shaun Smyth), under his wing. They spend a good deal of time with each other, and Jan becomes close with Max's cancer-stricken wife Eleanor (Fiona Reid) and hippie daughter Esme (Alex Paxton Beesley).

After finishing his degree in journalism, Jan heads home to Prague and is immediately confronted by the police on his tastes in music. The Soviet Union had sent in Warsaw Pact soldiers to occupy Czechoslovakia, and as a result, rock music was deemed a threat. Of course, this throws our protagonist Jan into quite the pickle.

He treats his records like narcotics, having friends smuggle them in so he can roll on his apartment floor in ecstasy — he makes do with the oppression against his beloved rock music. But when the lead singer of an underground Czech rock group The Plastic People of the Universe is arrested as part of a government crackdown on the genre, he tries to stand up against the government with the help of his chronic-petition-making friend Ferdinand (Cyrus Lane). Of course, this just lands him in prison.

Out of prison and many years later, the efforts of Ferdinand and the underground political scene are slowly bringing down the government, and

when the Velvet Revolution finally topples over the communist rule, Jan travels back to England to visit Max, but the visit reveals dastardly twists that contains too big of a spoiler to print.

It's quite easy to love the scenes without fully comprehending what's going on. Like much of Stoppard's work, *Rock 'n' Roll* is filled with fast-paced, back-and-forth discussions and quarrel on deep, almost mind-blowing issues. While going into the theatre with a plethora of background knowledge on communist models and Czechoslovakian history will certainly help, even a mild high-school level history buff can enjoy the intelligent dialogues that take place.

Although there's a fair share of critically clever conversation, Stoppard supplies us with a rather nice bouquet of humour as well. An energetic argument about a middle-aged woman's tits leads to some rather feisty groping, and there are numerous subtle jokes about sex, drugs, and, well, let's face it, rock 'n' roll.

The intellectual rapid-fire squabbles of ideologies and the dirty jokes and rock music should attract anyone who's even the least bit interested in theatre. Mixed with a dash of loveable communism and social history, this play truly brings you back in time to experience the real magic of the counterculture.



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**Thursday, Nov 19: Rapid Fire Theatre presents: Improv at ARTery!** Doors 7pm, \$5 Cover

**Friday, Nov 20: Moe Clark: Métis spoken word poet**  
Intersecting Circles with guests Kathy Fisher & Becky Schefflenberg. Show 8pm.  
Tickets: \$12 door/\$10 advance available @ Blackbyrd & www.tixonthesquare.ca

**Saturday, Nov 21: Carolyn Mark & NQ Arbuckle**  
Doors 8pm, Music 9pm. Tickets \$15 door/\$12 advance\*

**Tuesday, Nov 24: Winter Gloves (from Montreal) & guests Kisses of Fire.**  
Tickets \$18 door/\$15 advance\*. Sponsored by Big Rock Brewery.

Email contests@gateway.ualberta.ca to win a pair of tickets to either one of these shows. Contests close at midnight, Thurs, Nov 19. Winners will be chosen at random and notified by email to pick up their tickets at the Gateway offices sometime on Friday, Nov 20.

\*Advance tix for both shows available now at Blackbyrd & Listen Records.

Check out the new ARTery website and events calendar:  
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Michael Lavine, armed with a Leica and some Tri-X, walked into the Seattle grunge scene and found his thing.

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## GATEWAY PHOTO

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PETE YEE

**CAMERA! ACTION!** Electro-pop singer-songwriter Lights performed to a sold-out house at the Myer Horowitz Theatre on Friday evening. She's currently touring across Canada with Victoria, B.C.'s Jets Overhead, promoting her new album *The Listening*.



## albumreview

**Joss Stone**  
*Colour Me Free!*  
Virgin Records

DUSTIN BLUMHAGEN  
Arts & Entertainment Staff

At only 22 years old, English singer Joss Stone portrays more soul than most women three times her age. Her latest album was recorded in her mother's live-music venue in Wellington, England, creating an unrefined sound that compliments her strong voice perfectly. Throughout the album's 13 songs, Stone deftly weaves tales of heartbreak, love, and loss that would provide the perfect soundtrack to a rainy day spent alone inside an empty home. While

on previous albums she has stretched the limits of soul, *Colour Me Free!* is her most experimental album to date, showcasing influences like the blues, jazz, hip-hop, and gospel. The bluesy stomp of "Parallel Lines" is provided by guitar legend Jeff Beck, while some old school soul is injected into "Big Ol' Game" by Raphael Saadiq.

Joss Stone is notorious for her outspoken attitude and she displays that on her politically charged standout track

"Governmentalist." The track, which features a verse from rapper Nas, is a scathing commentary aimed at the government that references a war based upon oil, blood diamonds, and genetically modified food. Coming from an artist whose lyrics are generally based upon love and relationships, there was a potential for failure attacking a political tune (see: Bono, Madonna, etc.), but instead, Stone charges forth with an engaging, intelligent song. Easily the highlight of her recorded work, the album is worth the price solely for this one song.

Joss Stone is still a young artist, but her ability to outdo herself with each successive album foreshadows a long, triumphant career. Her haunting voice suits the music and her sweet sincerity is refreshing in a musical climate that seems to flourish on style over substance.



## albumreview

**Candiria**  
*Toying With the Insanities, Volume One*  
Rising Pulse Records

MELISSA BENTZ  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Their first CD release since March of this year, Candiria's new album *Toying with the Insanities* comes in four volumes and largely consists of remixes of songs taken from their previous three. The Brooklyn band still maintains their curious mix of heavy metal and jazz, throwing in synthesizer effects as the mood takes them, and there is no part of *Volume One* that fails to be interesting.

There are only eight songs on *Volume One*, but with long tracks,

it clocks in at almost a solid hour of music. The CD starts slow with the opening song "Divided" and some of the most traditionally heavy metal sounds this CD has to offer, moving on to much faster-paced and rather more melodic "Factions," which would have made a better opening number. "Pages" is repetitive in sound and suffers badly from a fluctuating volume if you're trying to listen to it with headphones. "Tribes" and "Conjuring Spirits" are both strong,

with some interesting drum work and a more classically jazz sound respectively. "Mental Crossover" and "Spectator" are certainly the most mellow songs on board, and the CD wraps to a close with "Three Times Again," a song heavy on synthesizer beats and mic growling, but slow and dynamic. Not the most exciting finish, perhaps, but one that flows naturally from the rest.

Throughout the CD, the synthesizer sound effects occasionally manage to act as a distraction from the actual music being played, but overall, Candiria keeps a solid beat, and presents songs that are not afraid to take their time and always work their way someplace very different from where they started. Fans of the band likely won't find much in the way of surprises in this one, but there's not much to be disappointed with either.



# Vader brings Polish death-metal westward

## musicpreview

### Vader

With *Decrepit Birth*, *Warbringer*, *The Amenta*, *Swashbuckle*, and *Augury*  
Saturday, November 19 at 7 p.m.  
Starlite Room (10030-102 St.)  
\$20 at ticketmaster.ca

GABBY RICHES  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Having just left Canada a few hours before our chat, Peter Wiwczarek, vocalist and guitarist for the extreme Polish death-metal band Vader, is preparing to amaze hordes of metal fans in Detroit. He says his experience of touring has changed substantially, especially since the early 1980s.

"In Poland, there was nothing around us. We had to learn to work with new equipment and we had a hard time getting our name out there," Wiwczarek says.

On their first demo, 1986's *Live in Decay*, Vader sang in Polish, but realized that in order to gain international exposure they would have to sing in English. In 1992, 10 years after their inauguration, Vader signed to Earache Records, which served as a catalyst for their metal legacy. Vader's first appearance in the western world was in 1993 and to their surprise, American metal fans already knew about them.

"We were considered the exotic band from Poland. We offered something different, something unique," Wiwczarek comments.

Vader has a distinct death metal sound and an unyielding metal career that has spanned over a quarter century. They're acclaimed as being one of the first death-metal bands from Poland, situating the country as a considerable influence within the global death metal scene.

For those who are fans of Vader's old-school blackened thrash sound, the new album will bring familiar sonic destruction to your speakers. Vader's new album, *Necropolis*, is a return to where the



madness all began.

"On this album, I wanted to take a step back to bring back the beginnings of Vader. I wanted to incorporate old-school heavy-metal elements, add more variety, more middle tempos, which are characteristics of old Vader. It's not all about how fast you play; it is about the meaning behind the music," he explains.

Known for offering their own interpretations of some well-known classic metal songs such as "Reigning Blood," Vader decided to include two popular metal covers on *Necropolis*, one from Metallica and another from Venom.

"We are known for doing metal covers. It is our way of demonstrating our respect not only for the bands, but for the history. We want to highlight bands that inspired us to become metal musicians," Wiwczarek says.

"It all started with Black Sabbath. That was the first heavy metal band I listened to, and they changed my life. The preoccupation with the occult and the supernatural really influenced my preference to write darker, more sinister lyrics. Judas Priest inspired me to play the guitar, and Slayer was probably the most influential in refining Vader's sound," he explains.

"We started playing faster and we became evil. Morbid Angel's first demo tape allowed us to discover our own distinctive sound."

Originally signed with Regain Records, Vader decided to release their new album with the renowned metal label Nuclear Blast due to previous issues concerning lack of communication and support.

"No matter how great a band is, they will not excel unless they are supported by their record label. We are really excited about switching labels; we have finally found our place. We are now part of the Nuclear Blast family and we know that we'll be staying with them for a while."

So what can Edmonton metal fans expect from Vader's show on November 19?

"Everything," Wiwczarek laughs. "We are not going to strictly focus on the new album. We plan to perform songs that will resonate with both new and veteran Vader fans."

Considering that Vader's new album *Necropolis* is their ninth full-length album and the band's inclination towards covers, they should have no trouble filling out a dynamic set-list. So get ready Edmonton — Vader is planning a full-on Polish death metal attack.



## albumreview

### Said the Whale

*Islands Disappear*  
Hidden Pony Records

MADELINE SMITH  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

As yet another bone-chilling winter begins to set in across the country, Said the Whale's second offering of light, summery pop sets out to remind us of warmer times. The Vancouver-based band's new album *Islands Disappear* is full of songs reminiscent of cross-country road trips and carefree days spent by the lake at your summer cabin, making the imminent arrival of blizzards and frozen toes within the coming weeks seem impossibly painful.

A distinctly Canadian sensibility is evident on almost every song from this album, from references to mountain climbing in British Columbia and the coal-mining industry in Ontario, to singer Ben Worcester's admission of being "an uncool Canadian kid / awed and inspired by all the popular guys" on the track "Gentleman." This slightly self-deprecating attitude, combined with the breezy, laid-back flow of the album makes *Islands Disappear* easy to listen to and enjoy. Like a less campy version of the Beach Boys, Said the Whale perfectly captures the essence of summer and converts it into a listening experience.

This is the ideal album for cruising around town with the top down on your convertible or tanning on your back deck, but we're all a good eight months away from being able to actually do any of those things. In the meantime, Said the Whale's wistful odes to the "fine life" of sunburns and summer romances will have to satisfy us.

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TO STAND UP TO  
TYRANNY?**



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# Pirate Radio objectifies women, but at least they're smoking hot

## filmreview

### Pirate Radio

Directed by Richard Curtis  
Starring Philip Seymour Hoffman, Bill Nighy, Nick Frost, Rhys Darby, and Kenneth Branagh  
Now Playing

EVAN MUDRYK  
Arts & Entertainment Staff

When a film casts so many of your favourite British comedy actors (and Philip Seymour Hoffman), puts them on a boat, sets the film to '60s rock, and crams in enough hot girls to fill three movies of the same length, it's hard to be critical, but a good reviewer does his best.

*Pirate Radio* tells the surprisingly untrue story of Radio Rock, a 24-hour rock-and-roll pirate radio station, during the time of oppressive British radio standards. More narrowly, it's about a young virgin, Carl (Tom Sturridge), who after being expelled from high school, is conveniently thrown onto the morally questionable boat captained by his godfather, Quentin (Bill Nighy). Carl needs to come of age, and what better place than on a boat filled with

drunk, drugged-up, and sexually depraved DJs? But the premise seems irrelevant, and more like an excuse to force half-a-dozen hilarious British actors into one place.

This is not your typical, sophisticated British comedy, but is broad in tone, and kills an evening admirably. While these freewheeling, fun-loving films have their place in cinema, this one is particularly frivolous. Scenes of debauchery on the boat are juxtaposed with those of the grinchy British minister Dormandy (Branagh) and his civil-servant lackey, known only as Twatt, who exist only for their hatred of rock and roll. When the principle themes of a film are the base freedom and rebellion, you can't expect to take away much more than a good time, which it capably delivers.

The actors are amusing and carry the film despite never delivering anything incredibly funny. However, those of us who aren't of the white-male persuasion might be advised to avoid the film, or at least to check their feminism at the door. The women, although extremely attractive, are completely vapid, promiscuous, and are regulated to the role of plot devices, objects of masculine desire and animosity. As for visible minorities, they don't exist even in the most menially capacity. This is a story of white males, joking with other white males, bonding with



white males, sleeping with sexy white females, fighting a government composed of old white males.

Although loosely inspired by the monopoly the BBC had over British radio and the pirate radio stations that existed during the time, every character is a work of fiction. While this isn't necessarily a bad thing, it does seem like a missed opportunity to tell the true stories of pirate radio. However,

it can be faulted for the soundtrack, which is, despite the film taking place during 1966, composed of a majority of songs from the few years following. Hearing Cat Stevens' "Father and Son" four years before its release is a confusing and unnecessary goof.

Before this review runs its course, I must for another moment, properly emphasize just exactly how hot the girls are in this film. They're super

hot. It actually defies logic how hot the actresses are, by and large. It was to the point where it became distracting to watch; surely British women's teeth couldn't have been *that* straight during the 1960s. Eventually you'll start to think that the girls can't get any hotter, but the filmmakers manage to top themselves time and time again. Well done, Richard Curtis. Well done.

## FLOP CULTURE

Recently, I had the opportunity to walk the proverbial mile in the shoes of a celebrity. The experience shattered my illusions of what it means to be famous. Dreams of swimming in pools of Cristal and snorting cocaine off of strippers' chests became slightly less inviting. Due to a case of mistaken identity, an intoxicated fan at a concert decided I was none other than Mr. Mike Comrie. The Oilers fan, who has a promising future in politics, managed to convince no less than 40 others that I was indeed Comrie and was just being modest, despite my passionate claims to the contrary.

The excitement of being identified as a hockey superstar wore off fast, and soon, requests for my autograph and hugs from shirtless, sweaty jocks began to get on my nerves. The pandemonium came to a terrifying peak when a 300lb. mass of raging testosterone with bulging veins grabbed the front of my shirt and began to

scream "you fucking suck" and "faggot" repeatedly, only inches from my face. While his spit rained upon me, I realized that being a celebrity may not be as wonderful as I once believed. Saved from being pounded by an enraged "fan" by another bouncer, I reflected upon what I knew about my doppelganger. Obviously, he is ridiculously good looking, but in order to prevent this from happening again, I think that he should be forced to grow a beard or shave his head. While enduring chants of my false name from the crowd, I realized that there was only one possible way that Mike Comrie could make up for endangering my life:

If you're reading this Mr. Comrie, I believe that it would only be fair if you would hook me up with Hilary Duff. After all, I was very polite to your fans.

DUSTIN BLUMHAGEN

*Flop Culture* is a semi-regular feature in which Gateway pop culture pundits shake their literary fists at ridiculous events or celebrities deserving of an inky bitch-slap.

MATTHEW GOOD



## albumreview

### Matthew Good

Vancouver  
Universal

JAMES LEASK  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Matthew Good's 2007 album *Hospital Music* was a record of his personal life falling apart and being reconstructed in the wake of divorce and his diagnosis with bipolar disorder. Back on an even keel, Good turns his attention outwards with his latest album *Vancouver*, an examination of the changing face of the city he calls home.

Good's assessment isn't exactly glowing. On *Vancouver*, the city is a disconnected place where it's hard to find a sense of belonging underneath the glossy image. "This is our story, but it ain't the truth," he sings on "The Vancouver National Anthem," ruminating that the city's brochures hide the drugs, the homeless, and the despair that arises from "invisible ghettos of privilege and grief" and "recycled lives." "The Boy Who Could Explode" is filled with the frustrating need to elicit change. The album's final track, "Empty's Theme Park," finds Good fighting for hope but worn down by a sense that it's all *deja-vu*.

*Vancouver's* songs are all well-crafted and solid, arising from Good's talented ear for melody. Lead single "Last Parade" is full of crashing percussion and a catchy chorus that will be familiar to any of Good's fans. The musician's expert production buoys the songs with swelling string sections. Good, a longstanding political activist, is at home with the album's subject matter. After 11 albums, however, it can be difficult for him to surprise the listener. Good plays to his considerable strengths and refines his approach, but doesn't take many risks. Like he says in the songs, we've been here before. Luckily, that's not necessarily a bad thing.

## 101 things to do with an issue of the Gateway:



Here at the Gateway, we believe that multitasking is an important skill. Perhaps the most important skill.

If you like doing two things at once, come to an A&E meeting and pick up a couple of assignments.

Just don't do them while driving.

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PANDAS HOCKEY

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13



4



1

Score by Period

Alberta	2	2	0	4
Lethbridge	0	0	1	1

AB Goals: Katie Stewart, Lindsie Fairfield, Sarah Hilworth and Jennifer Jubb

LETH Goal: Ashley Beattie

Goalie stats

	GA	SH	SV
AB VINGE, Dana	1	18	17
LETH McMASTER, Kailey	4	39	35

Specialty teams

	AB	LETH
Power play	0/5	1/6

Three Stars

- 1. AB: JUBB, Jennifer (1G-1A)
- 2. AB: RAMSAY, Stephanie (0G-1A)
- 3. LETH: McMASTER, Kailey (35 Saves)

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14



3



0

Score by Period

Alberta	0	1	2	3
Lethbridge	0	0	0	0

AB Goals: Sarah Hilworth, Tarin Podloski, and Katie Borbey

Goalie stats

	GA	SH	SV
AB VINGE, Dana	0	17	17
LETH McMASTER, Kailey	3	33	30

Specialty teams

	AB	LETH
Power play	0/10	0/5

Three Stars

- 1. AB: HILLWORTH, Sarah (1G-0A)
- 2. LETH: McMASTER, Kailey (30 Saves)
- 3. AB: RAMSAY, Stephanie (8 shots-42)



Canada West Standings

	G	W	L	OT	Pts.
Alberta	12	12	0	0	24
Saskatchewan	10	6	2	2	14
Manitoba	8	6	2	0	12
UBC	10	3	6	1	7
Lethbridge	8	3	5	0	6
Regina	8	1	4	3	5
Calgary	8	1	7	0	2



DANIELLE JENSON

Puck Pandas sweep away Lethbridge

Number-three ranked Alberta continues their undefeated streak with two more wins

EMERSON CSORBA  
Sports Staff

The Lethbridge Pronghorns charged into Clare Drake Arena, this past weekend determined to upset the number-three ranked Pandas. Boasting a 3-3 record, the 'Horns brought a young speedy team and a sturdy netminder into town for the two-game series. While the visitors' efforts were impressive, the Pandas once again proved infallible.

With a 4-1 victory on Friday and 3-0 triumph on Saturday, the Pandas extended their record to 12-0 on the regular season. The pair of victories now put the Pandas 10 points clear of second-place Saskatchewan in the Canada West standings.

In game one of the doubleheader, the Pandas failed to capitalize on five power play opportunities, but simultaneously neutralized the few attacks mustered by the 'Horns. All over the ice was Leah Copeland, who despite not getting onto the scoresheet, used her speed to weave between defenders and let seven shots rip.

While game one was a one-sided affair, the

rematch was much tighter. Making stop after stop all game long was Lethbridge netminder Kailey McMaster, who made an impressive 30 saves in what was a non-stop barrage of shots from the Pandas.

“[Lethbridge] played an outstanding game; they were basically trapping us. What I liked about our team is that we stayed the course. It wasn't our best game by any means, but I liked our resilience.”

HOWIE DRAPER  
HEAD COACH PANDAS HOCKEY

Lethbridge, while overmatched by the Pandas, was kept in the game by McMaster.

“She was good,” Draper said. “She made the first saves and had a strong defensive game around her, so we didn't have many quality shots.”

Alberta's scoring this weekend was widespread, with six of the Pandas seven goals in the two games coming from different players. Leading the way was Sarah Hilworth, who netted a goal in each contest. Captain Tarin Podloski, Katie Borbely, Lindsie Fairfield, Jennifer Jubb, and Katie Stewart all found the scoresheet.

Game two was also a penalty-filled affair, as the two sides combined for 44 minutes of time in the box. Surprisingly, the Pandas and 'Horns each failed to capitalize on their powerplay opportunities, going 0-for-15 combined on the night.

Solving the trap was a tricky endeavour for Draper and his Pandas.

“[Lethbridge] played an outstanding game; they were basically trapping us. What I liked about our team is that we stayed the course. It wasn't our best game by any means, but I liked our resilience. We just kept plugging away and eventually got that first goal,” Draper stated.

Following a bye week this coming weekend, the Pandas will face the Calgary Dinos for the first time in six seasons, after Calgary spent the last six seasons in the ACAC, where they captured that leagues championship in '08/09.

Varsity Stars

Varsity Stars is a weekly look at the very best performances by U of A athletes over the past weekend. Selections are based on the recommendations of our dedicated Gateway Sports Staff.

Photographs supplied by  
Andy Devlin/LA Media



SEAN RINGROSE  
Ringrose had six points Friday night in Lethbridge (2G;4A), becoming the first hockey Bear since Kevin Marsh back in 2004 to have a six-point game. Ringrose added another assist Saturday night.



MARISSA HAYLETT  
Haylett led the Pandas basketball squad offensively this weekend. Haylett led the team in points both nights with 21 against Victoria Friday, and another 16 Saturday night against UBC.



TIFFANY PROUDFOOT  
Proudfoot continued to lead Pandas volleyball this past weekend against SFU, with 20 kills Friday night and another 18 Saturday night — both team highs.



## WHL grads continue to fuel CW men's hockey

Since 1993, the Western Hockey League has awarded over 3,500 scholarships

EVAN DAUM  
Sports Editor

Not only is major-junior hockey a pipeline to the NHL for young hockey players, but it's also the lifeblood of elite university hockey in Canada. Combined, the three major-junior leagues in this country that make up the Canadian Hockey League — the Western Hockey League, Ontario Hockey League, and Quebec Major Junior Hockey League — provide the vast majority of talent for CIS coaches from coast-to-coast at the nation's best hockey schools.

Among the seven Canada West men's hockey schools, their rosters are made up of a combined 128 players with major-junior experience — with 119 of those graduates coming out of the WHL. The University of Saskatchewan leads the way with 23 grads on their roster, with the Golden Bears and Calgary Dinos a close second, as both Alberta-based squads feature 21 graduates on their squads. The rest of the Canada West is no stranger to major junior talent either as UBC and Regina sport 17 CHL grads, Manitoba has 15, while Lethbridge rounds out the conference with 14 former major-junior players on their roster.

The vast majority of those major-junior graduates now playing in Canada West applied their trade in the WHL, and in many cases, then choosing to play at the CIS level is a direct result of the WHL's scholarship program which provides grads of the league the opportunity to attend post-secondary institutions by paying for the grads tuition, textbooks, and fees for every season played in the WHL.

Since being instituted in 1993, the scholarship program has led to an increase in the number of WHL players who look to university after finishing their major-junior careers. For Bears head coach Eric Thurston, the WHL is a hockey hotbed that year after year provides his team with the majority of his recruits, and helps him get the talent needed to compete on the national level.

"The talent that the WHL scouts and produces has been a real cornerstone to our program in the last 16 years. The players have the opportunity to continue playing hockey at an elite level,



DANIELLE JENSON

**CLUTCH KLASSEN** Bears forward Chad Klassen (left), played five seasons in the WHL, and is leading the Canada West in scoring this season with 21 points.

but continue to get their education paid for — [it] has really turned into a real win-win," Thurston explained.

"Players can come to a great institution, but also what I feel is stay on the radar with their development and further their hockey careers."

**"The talent that the WHL scouts and produces has been a real cornerstone to our program in the last 16 years."**

ERIC THURSTON  
BEARS HOCKEY HEAD COACH

Thurston, who played three seasons with the WHL's Victoria Cougars in the early 1980s before suiting up for the Green and Gold, knows how much the WHL's scholarship program has meant to not only Canada West, but CIS hockey across the country.

"I see the overall level — from

us having 21 players, Saskatchewan having a very deep roster, UNB doing a great job of getting OHL and WHL guys — that the overall depth of each team and skill level has just been tremendous. I think it's really improved the league across the board — that's just one person's opinion, but I've seen how strong it's been and I think it's been great exposure and great hockey for Canadian university sport."

This season, 253 WHL grads are taking advantage of the scholarship program by attending post-secondary institutions across North America, many of them taking advantage of the program while also continuing to play hockey. Since its creation in 1993, the WHL scholarship program has provided over 3,500 scholarships that total more than \$11 million.

With the OHL and QMJHL providing similar programs to graduates of their leagues, major-junior hockey players from teams across Canada and the numerous major-junior outposts in the United States, now more than ever, constitute the major talent pool CIS coaches look to for recruits.

## CIS scholarships under review

REBECCA LINDEL  
The Ubysses

VANCOUVER (CUP) — Canada's university sports league is looking to change its scholarship rules to allow full-ride awards for student athletes by next year.

"The principle is to keep the best student athletes in Canada," said Clint Hamilton, president of CIS and athletics director at the University of Victoria. "Currently, the scholarship situation is such that it's limiting our ability to do that."

"Financially, we are not able to compete with our counterparts across the line in the NCAA."

The maximum amount of award money CIS athletes are eligible for is the cost of tuition and ancillary fees. Meanwhile, on the other side of the 49th parallel, NCAA offers additional funding for residence and living expenses, making it an attractive option for talented Canadian athletes.

CIS is exploring what Hamilton calls "a flexible scholarship model." This model would remove the per-student cap, which would allow Canadian universities to give free rides for key players. It would still limit the total amount of money available per sport, however.

For example, a basketball program could have a scholarship budget of \$30,000 under the proposed model, and they would have to determine how many full-ride scholarships were offered out of that pot.

The University of British Columbia has been one of the key players in initiating the review, and have long considered making the jump into the NCAA because it would give the school more financial flexibility. UBC gave out over \$500,000 in athletic scholarships this year, but have argued that they're unable to keep the best local athletes in Canada due to scholarship restrictions.

While it would help Canadian schools retain talent, UBC's athletic director Bob Philip said flexibility isn't enough — the league needs to rethink scholarship eligibility rules as well.

"We think they should adopt the NCAA rule, and the NCAA rule says if you are eligible to play sports, you are eligible to receive an athletic award," Philip said.

CIS student athletes need to keep a 60 per cent average, be enrolled in

three classes during the season, and gain 18 credits each year to be eligible to play sports. To earn scholarships, athletes need an 80 per cent average out of high school and at least a 65 per cent average at the end of their first year. Students beyond their first year must keep a 65 per cent average, with the exception of Ontario, which requires a 70 per cent average.

Hamilton said any proposals to change the eligibility rules would doom any other changes to failure when the CIS membership votes on them in June.

"I don't believe at this point that there is an appetite to want to lower the academic requirements that are on the books as part of a more expanded financial offering in terms of scholarship," Hamilton said.

Philip said that even if scholarship rules do change, there's no guarantee UBC would close the NCAA door.

**"The principle is to keep the best student athletes in Canada. Currently the scholarship situation is such that it's limiting our ability to do that."**

CLINT HAMILTON  
CIS PRESIDENT

The NCAA is an important brand for athletes and playing in the American league would help attract the best Canadian athletes to UBC, Philip said, adding that it would also raise the level of play.

"A Canadian student athlete should be able to study in Canada and have the same opportunities. Why should they have to go to the States?"

Still, UBC's vice president of students Brian Sullivan said it would be an important step towards resolving some of the issues pushing UBC towards the NCAA.

"One very important positive element is the scholarship flexibility [...] If that report comes back and it's a favourable action with respect to eligibility for scholarship and flexibility for scholarships [...] that would be a positive influence that UBC will take into account when deciding whether or not to apply for NCAA membership," Sullivan said.

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# Cross-country teams return home from nationals with CW medals

EVAN DAUM  
Sports Editor

The end to the 2009 cross-country season proved to be a good one for the Pandas and Bears cross-country teams, as both teams captured Canada West medals over the weekend at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario.

Both Alberta teams managed top-three finishes in the conference, with the Pandas claiming second place behind the Victoria Vikes, while the Bears finished third in the team standings behind Regina and Calgary. Overall, the Pandas finished fifth in the nation, an improvement of seven spots after finishing 12th at last year's meet in Quebec. The Bears also saw their standing improve this time around, finishing sixth — three spots better than their ninth-place finish in 2008.

Individually for the Pandas, Hayley Degaust led the way running the 5 km course in a time of 18:15.3, good enough for 29th-place finish on the women's side, out of 131 runners. Alana Soderberg, Lindsay Acheson, Joelle Stengerand, Natalia Szykarczuk all cracked the 19 minute mark, as they all finished inside the top 60, with Soderberg and Acheson both cracking the top 50.

"I'm very happy with the results; we still have a really young team. Last year, neither team finished in the top 10, and for the girls to jump seven spots and finish fifth, and in the Canada West just getting beat out by UVic, and beating the University of Calgary, who was ranked higher than us all year, beating them pretty good," head coach Georgette Reed said.

"On the ladies side, very pleased — our team's only going to get stronger. We've got some big recruits coming in next year and there's a lot of confidence in our program especially on the ladies side."

The Bears saw three runners crack the top 50, with third-year runner Jamie Weikum — the top finisher among all Alberta runners — finishing



CLAUDINE CHAMPION

**CROSSING KINGSTON** Both the Pandas and Bears put up some of their best times of the season to improve on their placings from last year's nationals.

in 16th place with a time of 32:14.4 in the 10 km race. Max Leboeuf and Jaden Ostapowich finished inside the top 50, placing 31st and 45th, respectively, with times of 32:47.8 and 33:18.6.

**"I'm really pleased with our squad — it's a young squad that's in for bigger and better things."**

**GEORGETTE REED**  
U OF A CROSS-COUNTRY HEAD COACH

"They really fought hard. Regina had a really good team this year and they usually don't, so they had their one good year and it just gives us motivation to make sure that we can get ahead of them, and back on top ahead of U of C, and on top of the Canada West standings."

The strong finishes were an excellent way to cap off a season that saw both teams have success both individually and as teams at the fast course at Fort Henry Hill in Kingston.

"The course in Kingston was fast, and we kind of expected that. We tried to shape our Stewart Cup course similar to that — a little bit faster course, and the times that especially our ladies ran, especially Alana and Hayley, probably ran their best times ever in 5 km, and the guys were up there for the faster times they've run in 10km," Reed said.

With only a lone fifth-year runner on the squad, Acheson, the future looks bright for the Alberta runners.

"The future looks good for next season. We've got probably three recruits coming in on the ladies side that are probably just as fast, if not faster than our front runners right now, so we're looking really good."

"Jamie Weikum still has two years [of eligibility], so I think he's going to get even better in those two years and start pulling the rest of the guys along."

With a team that features only the lone fifth-year runner, and a host of young runners with potential, the future looks promising for this, and the incoming crop of Alberta runners.

"I'm really pleased with our squad — it's a young squad that's in for bigger and better things."

## sportsshots

Compiled by Evan Daum

### Pandas Basketball

It was a stellar weekend for the Pandas basketball team, as they handed losses to the number-five ranked Victoria Vikes and UBC Thunderbirds on the road. In Victoria Friday night, the Pandas came from behind in the second half, outscoring the Vikes by 13 to secure a 75-65 win. Marissa Haylett led the way with 20 points for Alberta.

Saturday night, Alberta would once again find a way to win, this time in a much lower-scoring affair, as the Pandas on the back of Haylett's team-high 16 points squeaked out a 57-53 win over the T-Birds in Vancouver.

With the wins, the Pandas improved their record to 5-1 in conference play, and sit tied atop the Prairie division of the Canada West with provincial rival Calgary.

### Bears Basketball

The men's basketball squad didn't fare as well as the women's side this weekend, as they dropped both their games in B.C. The Bears headed into Victoria Friday night looking to keep their four game conference win streak alive, but gave up a 30-point second quarter to the Vikes and couldn't recover as Alberta dropped the contest by a score of 74-66. Rookie Jordan Baker

led the way for the Green and Gold with 14 points in a losing cause.

Against UBC Saturday night, the Bears were once again led by Baker who had 15 points to lead all Alberta players, but again would prove not enough as the T-Birds handed the Bears their second consecutive loss in a 75-68 decision.

The two losses dropped the Bears record to 4-2 in Canada West play, as Alberta falls two games back of Calgary for top spot in the Canada West Prairie division.

### Pandas Volleyball

Like both basketball squads, the Volley-Pandas headed to B.C. this weekend for a pair of games. The Pandas were in Burnaby to take on the SFU Clan both Friday and Saturday night, and were able to secure a pair of victories.

Friday night went the distance, as the Pandas came back from a two set deficit to earn the 3-2 win in what was an extremely tight affair.

Saturday night, the Pandas would once again secure a victory, this time in four sets, winning 3-1 thanks to Tiffany Proudfoot's 18 kills. Proudfoot also led the way Friday night with 20 kills.

Alberta now sits at 7-1 on the regular season, and are currently tied atop the Canada West standings with UBC.

### Bears Hockey

The power play continues to be smoking hot for the Golden Bears hockey squad, as the Bears lit the lamp a total of

six times over the weekend, as Alberta earned a series sweep on the road in Lethbridge with wins of 8-5 and 2-0.

Sean Ringrose tallied six points (two goals, four assists) Friday night, becoming the first Bears to accomplish that feat since Kevin Marsh pulled it off back in 2004 at home against the Pronghorns. Eric Hunter was also stellar for the Bears with two goals and three helpers.

Saturday night saw the offensive fireworks subside, as the Bears managed a 2-0 win, with both goals coming with the man advantage. Rookie netminder Travis Yonkman earned the win in goal for the Bears — his first as a member of the Green and Gold.

The number-two ranked team in the nation sits atop the Canada West standings with a record of 10-1-1.

### Mayer CIS award winner

Pandas soccer player Veronique Mayer was named the winner of the CIS' Student-Athlete Service award winner for women's soccer last week, becoming the second Panda in as many years to win the award after Jackie Smith won the award last season.

A fifth-year senior and team captain, Mayer is involved extensively in the community on several levels. From coaching high school soccer and basketball, to working with the Stollery Children's Hospital, Mayer has been just one of the many Pandas to volunteer her time extensively while competing at the CIS level.



AU student Andrée in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

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Athabasca University



**Angry soccer coaches beware. Argentinian national team coach Diego Maradona has been suspended from all soccer activities for two months by FIFA after going off on an expletive-filled rant at journalists last month.**

**Luckily, the soccer coaches here at the U of A are kinder and gentler than Maradona, so if you want to interview them, come on up to a sports meeting every Thursday at 4 p.m. on the third floor of SUB.**

**GATEWAY SPORTS:**  
**AVOIDING VITRIOLIC TIRADES SINCE 1910.**

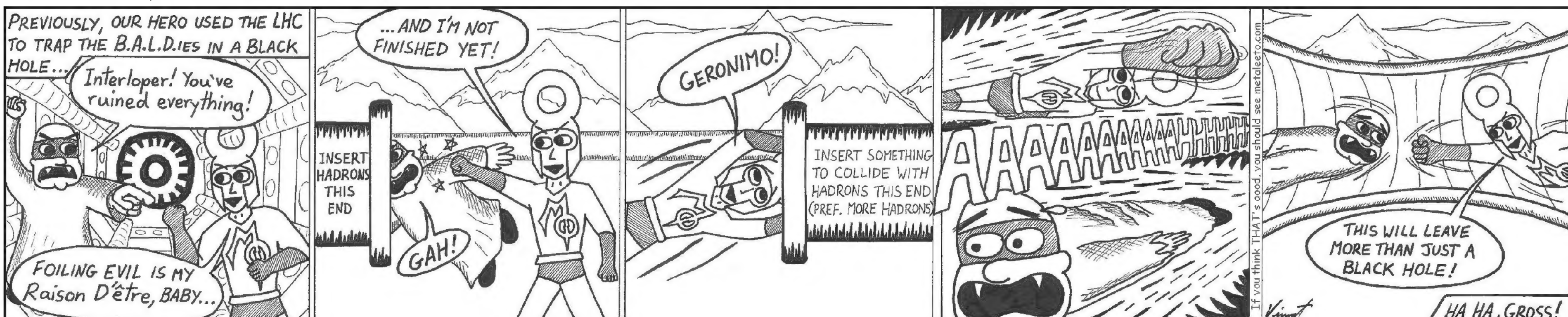
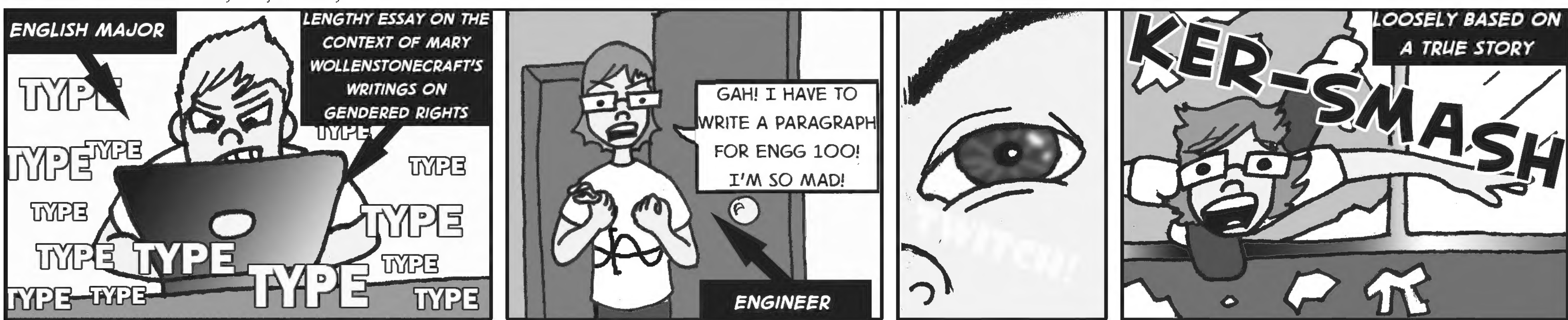
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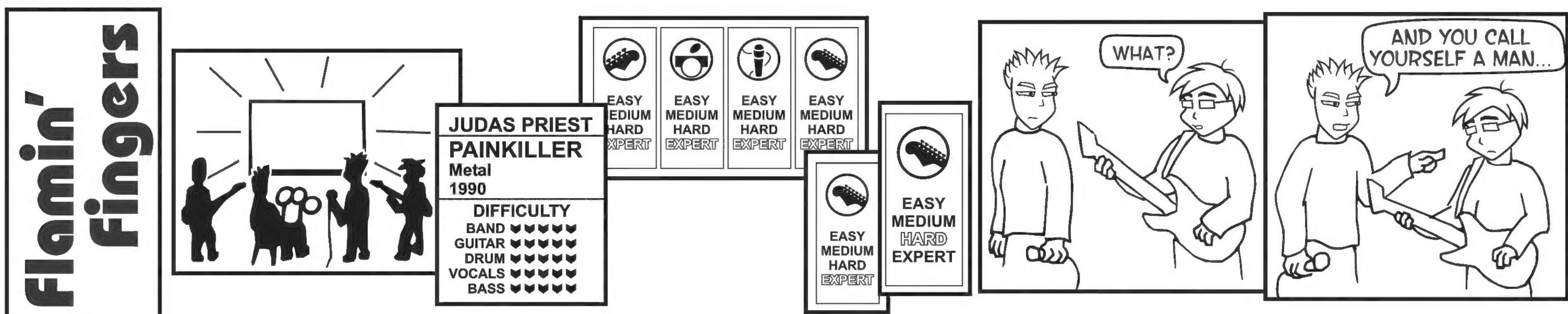
## POP AND ICE CREAM by Lance and Evan Mudryk



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AND FINALLY

Despite what you may have read 11 pages earlier, the true solution to the problem of student engagement is simple: President Mathewson must first obtain the Matrix of Leadership in order to bring harmony to a divided campus. This Matrix was once scattered by the Primes, but can easily be recovered once the Chosen One follows a series of arcane clues. Once the clues have been deciphered and the codex completed, only then will the true path to an engaged undergraduate population be revealed. Of course, some skeptics may wonder: what special properties does this Matrix of Leadership hold? The answer: it is shiny.



AARON YEO

PRISONER OF WAR A mass of Edmontonians convened in Winston Churchill Square on November 15 to protest the continued imprisonment of Omar Khadr.

crossword

**Going Crossword EleMental**  
by David Johnston

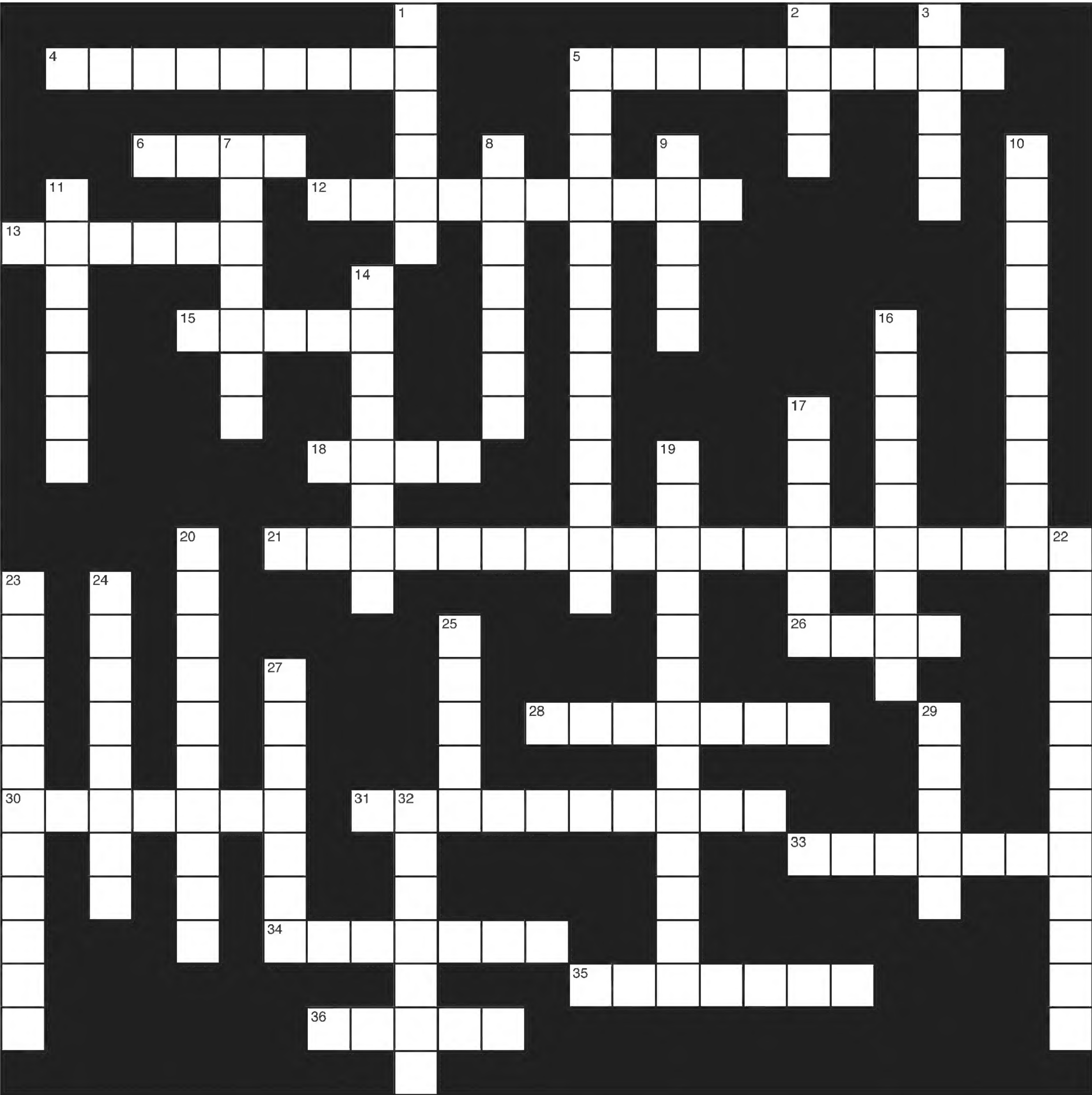
The Crossword runs semi-regu-  
larly with the answer available at  
[www.thegatewayonline.ca](http://www.thegatewayonline.ca)

Across

- 4. Goldeneye hacker done in by liquid nitrogen
- 5. 90210 remake character, annoying
- 6. Starring actress
- 12. Their Adventure! With Scientists! netted them a booty of Ruthenium
- 13. When in Rome, he goes by Mercury
- 15. Tintin's dog
- 18. Reynolds Wrap is just a fancy name for Aluminum this
- 21. The motto of journalism review site Helium.com
- 26. Greyhound transitline to compete with Megabus
- 28. Phosphorus is the star of this
- 30. 1992 Nirvana single
- 31. Their Titanium Card will surely solve all your credit woes forever
- 33. Tolkien's Boron's descendant
- 34. Multivitamin complete from A to Zinc!
- 35. Doomed planet that sent a superhero to Earth
- 36. This adjective is added to a carbon copy email to make you invisible

Down

- 1. Police officer
- 2. They're in charge of handing out platinum certifications to albums
- 3. The Sulphur river runs through both Arkansas and this southern state
- 5. His short story "The Gold Bug" is



- lesser-known, but still evocatively creepy
- 7. Marvel comics teenage heroine; had a pet velociraptor named Old Lace
- 8. Selenium IDE is a software program for this internet platform
- 9. Juliette playing Iron Maiven in the movie Whip It.

- 10. Colorful DC Comics villain facing the Flash
- 11. The hamlet of Calcium is found in Jefferson County in this state
- 14. It makes up 75 per cent of the universe by mass
- 16. He's the headshot on the American nickel
- 17. Specialty TV network airing such

- timeless classics as Dance Your Ass Off and The Janice Dickinson Modeling Agency
- 19. Google, eBay, Adobe, Apple and Yahoo live here
- 20. With Radium, village in B.C.
- 22. Pam Anderson heroine who recovered the World's Largest Cubic Zirconium after its theft.

- 23. Hollywood Theatre
- 24. A wire to light up the night
- 25. 1915 battle infamous for the chlorine gas attacks
- 27. The Tungsten series of PDAs were made by them
- 29. Artemis Fowl fairy psychologist
- 32. Johann Radon was a mathematician from this country



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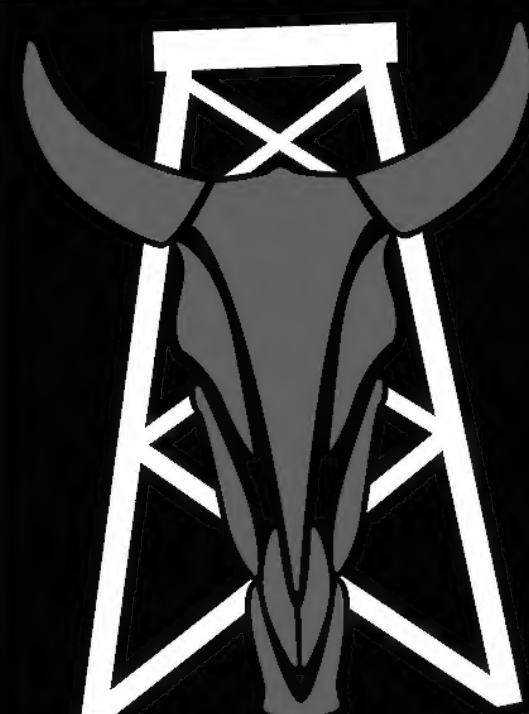
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